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THE EFFECTS OF EMPLOYMENT STATUS ON SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL CORRELATES OF ALCOHOLISM

by

© GORDON J. BODDEZ

A THESIS

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The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for acceptance, a thesis entitled "The Effects of Employment Status on Some Psychological Correlates of Alcoholism" submitted by G.J. Boddez in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Business Administration.

Supervisor

Date _____

ABSTRACT

This thesis develops and empirically tests aspects of a comprehensive theory of alcoholism. The study indicates that a dependence-independence conflict is fundamental to the alcoholism syndrome and that this conflict is closely associated with various aspects of the male alcoholics personality such as self-concept, depression, and several psychological needs.

It is postulated that alcoholics exhibit different stages of a dependence-independence conflict and that the different stages are reflected in different levels of self-concept, depression, and the psychological needs of achievement, dominance and succorance.

To test these different dependent-independent conflict stages a group of diagnosed employed and unemployed male alcoholics were sampled. The results support the theory that alcoholics exhibit different stages of a dependence-independence conflict.

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CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

While there exists an abundance of studies of the self-concept, depression and psychological needs of alcoholics,[1] the vast majority of these studies are devoted to comparing alcoholics and non-alcoholics. The general conclusion from these studies is that alcoholics have low self-concepts, higher levels of depression and generally manifest different psychological needs as compared to non-alcoholics. There are a few studies however, particularly those by Connor and Mindlin[2] which indicate that this psychological pattern is not a characteristic of all alcoholics. They have shown that sub-populations of alcoholics often differ considerably on these psychological variables often exhibiting high self-concepts, low levels of depression, and different psychological need patterns than the other

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1. William F. Gross and Linda O. Alder, "Aspects of Alcoholics Self-Concept Scale," Psychological Reports, 27 (1970), pp. 431-434., James A. Vanderpool, "Alcoholism and The Self-Concept," Quarterly Journal of Studies On Alcohol, 30 (1969), pp. 59-77.

2. R.G. Connor, "The Self-Concepts of Alcoholics," (Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Washington, 1961), p. 59., Dorothy F. Mindlin, "Attitudes Toward Alcoholism and Toward Self: Differences Between Three Alcoholic Groups," Quarterly Journal of Studies On Alcohol, 25 (1964), p. 136.

studies would lead one to expect. Thus, there seems to be a need for a study to clarify the role of the self-concept, depression and various psychological needs, in the onset and maintenance of alcoholism. More specifically, there is need for a study which develops and tests a comprehensive theory which relates these psychological variables to alcoholism.

The purpose of this study is:

1) to present a theoretical framework which improves our understanding of the relationship of the self-concept, depression and various psychological needs to alcoholism, and

2) to empirically test the theory to determine whether it explains how sub-populations of alcoholics vary on these parameters.

An Overview of the Conceptual Framework and the Research Method

In order to better understand the relationship of the self-concept to the alcoholic personality profile, a review of a variety of theories and studies, pertaining to the correlates of alcoholism is presented. These studies are integrated into a comprehensive theory which helps the reader understand the development of the self-concept in alcoholics.

From this review it is suggested that the characteristic self-concept, depression level and psychological needs of alcoholics are related to level of intensity of a dependence-independence conflict found in the majority of alcoholics. This conflict is initiated when a naturally dependent person adopts an independent facade to conform to the cultural stereotype of masculinity. This necessitates the repression of his innate dependence needs. In the early stages of the appearance of this conflict the pre-alcoholic uses repression as a coping mechanism, but the longer the innate dependence needs remain unsatisfied the harder they are to repress. Furthermore, it is inevitable that the masculine facade will be threatened by the environment. This heightens the conflict by exposing the repressed dependence needs. The pre-alcoholic eventually choses alcohol as an additional mechanism for coping with the conflict. As long as the alcoholic is able to contain the conflict within reasonable bounds, the self-concept would remain high. But eventually, a severe threat is encountered which destroys the masculine image and the related self-concept with direct effects on the individual's psychological needs and depression level.

To empirically test the hypotheses implied in what has been said so far, a group of seventy employed and unemployed alcoholics were randomly chosen to represent two sub-populations of alcoholics. It was assumed that unemployment would constitute a serious threat to the alcoholics self-concept of masculinity. We concluded that unemployed alcoholics should present a much lower self-concept, heightened depression, and a different psychological need pattern, than employed alcoholics.

This study was made possible by the complete co-operation of the counselling staff at a governmental treatment centre for alcoholics who allowed the writer to select subjects at random from among their patients.

Chapter Overview

The purpose of Chapter II is to review literature regarding alcoholism. The chapter is divided into two sections. The first section presents studies which are concerned with the development of alcoholism and the basic personality correlates of the alcoholic; from this a theory regarding the dependence-independence conflict and its relationship to the self-concept, psychological needs and depression, is formulated. The second portion of the chapter presents research studies examining alcoholism in relation to the self-concept, de-

pression and various psychological needs. Finally, the research problem, the relationship of the employment status of alcoholics to their self-concepts and psychological states and needs, is discussed.

Chapter III restates the research problem, describes the research method and sample, defines the major variables, describes the tests used in the study and the procedures used to analyse the data.

In Chapter IV the results of the empirical study are presented and discussed.

Chapter V presents a summary and conclusion of the theoretical and empirical aspects of the thesis; and suggests possible avenues for future research.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

This chapter has three objectives. The first objective is to provide a thorough understanding of the development of alcoholism. This understanding is aided by the fact that most alcoholics display certain common characteristics. The most fundamental personality characteristic of the alcoholic is a pervasive dependence-independence conflict. This conflict occurs when a person with heightened dependence needs incorporates into his self-concept and attempts to rigidly adhere to the cultural stereotype of the masculine role.

The dependence needs are intensified needs for love, support and guidance, caused by factors in the future alcoholic's (the pre-alcoholic) home environment. These needs will be shown to be associated with a generalized cognitive style known as field dependence. This cognitive style persists throughout the life of the person, and is manifested behaviorally by a strong and pervasive dependence upon the external environment. Under normal circumstances field dependent persons accept their innate dependence; but the pre-alcoholic does not. He rejects his intrinsic dependence tenden-

cies and adopts into his self-concept the cultural stereotype of masculinity. The ensuing dependence-independence conflict arises because the attributes which are associated with the masculine stereotype, such as achievement, dominance, aggressiveness and independence, and which are overtly expressed by this person, are diametrically opposed to the dependence needs characteristic of this personality type. The pre-alcoholic can not eliminate the dependence needs as they are basic to his personality structure. What he attempts to do is to repress them.

A unique relationship develops between the pre-alcoholic's masculine facade, his repressed dependence needs and his self-image. Because he has strongly adopted the masculine stereotype into his self-image, threats (via environmental feedback) to this image precipitate a conflict by exposing repressed dependence needs. It is the attempt to maintain the integrity of the self-image which necessitates the continual adherence to and over-emphasis of the masculine stereotype and the repression of the dependence needs from the conscious self. The use of alcohol and the subsequent development of alcoholism is seen as a device for coping with the dependence-independence conflict created by threats to the masculine facade of

independence.

The second objective of the chapter is to portray the advancement of alcoholism and the eventual outcome of the dependence-independence conflict in terms of its effects on the self-concept, particular psychological needs and the depression level of the alcoholic. The chapter explains that the resultant situation is that the alcoholic is unable to sustain his high self-image in light of severe assaults to the masculine facade. When this occurrs, the masculine facade collapses together with the related self-concept and the alcoholic's level of depression is heightened. At this stage his formerly repressed dependence needs become more overtly expressed.

The final objective of the chapter is to derive the research problem from this general theoretical construct. The research problem is to identify the correlates of different stages of the dependence-independence conflict using employment status as the predictor variable. Employment status is used as the independent variable because of its presumed significance to the masculine facade. Unemployment is perceived as constituting a severe assault to the masculine facade which results in the collapse of the high self-image, heightened depres-

sion, and expression of different psychological needs.

The sequence of presenting previous studies follow the pattern just outlined. The first portion of the chapter presents studies concerned with the causal factors in alcoholism. These studies identify several common characteristics of alcoholics. This, in turn, leads to a basic understanding of the dependence-independence conflict. Finally, these studies are interpreted and their findings extended by the application of certain postulates of field dependence theory. The integration of these materials results in the development of a model of the alcoholic cycle.

The chapter discusses the alcoholic cycle and the significance of the dependence-independence conflict in the development of the cycle. It characterizes the cycle in terms of different stages of the dependent-independent conflict. The final result of the conflict is depression and a distinct change in the types of psychological needs expressed by the alcoholic. Existing research concerning these factors is presented and analyzed in a sequence which illustrates the progressive development of the dependent-independent cycle.

Finally, a comprehensive review of the chapter is presented indicating how the research problem has been

logically derived.

The Etiology of Alcoholism

The Dependence-Independence Conflict

A study by Jones[1] was concerned with analysing longitudinal data to identify causal factors in the development of alcoholism. Her sample consisted of 66 men who were a part of an intensive longitudinal study (begun in the early 1930's) known as the Oakland Growth Study (OGS). The subjects, now in their middle forties, had had a seven year period of intensive study during the school years (from age 10½ to graduation) followed by a number of investigations. On the basis of the data collected over this period, the sample was divided into five categories: problem drinker, heavy drinker, moderate drinker, light drinker and abstainer. This classification of subjects was based upon three criteria. Firstly, on the basis of their physician's assessment (at age 33), in answer to a question regarding how much they drank. Secondly, on the basis of responses to an intensive interview (at age 38) in which the subjects were asked how they

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1. Mary Cover Jones, "Personality Correlates and Antecedents of Drinking Patterns in Adult Males," Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 32 (1968), pp. 2-12.

felt about drinking. And thirdly, on the basis of responses to a comprehensive series of questions (at age 43) on their drinking behavior. Classification was in all instances made with the assistance of a team of experts on alcoholism. Of the 66 subjects, 6 were classified as problem drinkers, 16 as heavy, 20 as moderate, 7 as light and 3 as abstainers. Three groups were used for comparisons in this study; the heavy drinking group, the moderate and the abstainers. Personality ratings of subjects were obtained using the California Q Set. In addition, interviews, projective tests and physiological examinations and personality tests were carried out. Extensive interviews were used in the adult situation as the basis of the Adult Q Sort, as most of the items used in the California Q Set were only applicable to the youth period. Student t tests were used to analyse the data.

The findings of this study strongly suggest that persons who would later become problem drinkers were under-controlled, assertive, rebellious, pushing the limits and overtly hostile as teenagers. Jones suggested that they may have been trying to satisfy their personal needs by activities which symbolized the pleasures of mature status. Another factor which seemed to

have been characteristic of this group was the method with which they handled conflicts. Jones found that they repressed their anxiety and conflicts i.e. they attempted to exclude them from awareness. Jones also found that the behavior of these individuals (typified by their acting-out, and assertive behavior) tended to be judged less favorably by their peers as time progressed. She stated, for example, that:

> the future problem drinkers seemed to cope successfully in like sex groups during the latency period by using expressive behavior. However, these techniques become increasingly ineffective for the heterosexual social period. Decline in status was reflected in lower ratings on such prestige traits as leadership and on their self-report scores for social adjustment.[2]

Another important finding of this study was that those persons who would become problem drinkers placed a very high value upon masculine behavior. Such behavior was exhibited at all levels. However, in comparison with moderate drinkers and abstainers, they were relatively unable to function comfortably in dependent relationships. Jones concludes that these behaviors of future alcoholics are, at least to some extent, pervasive personality tendencies which are

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2. Ibid., p. 11.

exhibited before drinking patterns have been established.

Another study, this time by Lisansky[3], also sought to identify common personality characteristics of alcoholics. Her conceptual framework drew on a number of general studies of alcoholism, on general psychological and psychological and psycho-analytical literature, and on the literature explaining the psychological processes that accompany adolescence and the emergence of adulthood. This conceptual framework assumes that a constellation of personality traits may be produced in childhood, and that these traits may interact with physiological and sociocultural conditions to produce or enhance the development of alcoholism. Lisansky[4] theorizes that experiences in infancy, childhood and adolescence, including such factors as an imbalance of pleasure and pain, as well as of satisfaction and frustration, creates a predisposition to exhibit certain psychological traits upon entering adulthood. She postulates that this constellation of traits include the following:

a) an intensely strong need, drive or impulse

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3. Edith S. Lisansky, "Etiology of Alcoholism: The Role of Psychological Predisposition," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 21 (1960), pp. 315-336.

4. Ibid., pp. 332-333.

toward dependency.

b) weak and inadequate defense mechanism against the excessive manifestation of this need, resulting, under specific conditions, in

c) an intense dependence-independence conflict,

d) a low degree of tolerance for frustration or tension and,

e) unresolved love-have ambivalences.[5]

These factors represent a core personality pattern which appear to be a precondition of the development of alcoholism.

Lisansky suggests that the intense dependence-independence conflict is initiated when the demands of the adult male role emphasizing independence are placed upon an individual who has strong dependence needs. Repression is unsuccessfully employed as a defense mechanism to decrease the dominance of these strong dependence needs. This unresolved dependence-independence conflict creates a high degree of tension in the individual who has a relatively limited tolerance for frustration or tension. Lisansky sees alcohol as providing a complex of gratifications in such persons. It reduces

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5. Ibid.

tensions and diminishes the acute frustration of unsatisfied dependence needs. It provides an excuse for being passive in spite of the demands of the male role. It provides both an illusion of loving and being loved. Lisansky concludes that the possession of these personality characteristics, combined with the pressures of the adult role expectations, and membership in high alcohol groups, increases the probability of an individual becoming an alcoholic.[6]

The purpose of a study by William and Joan McCord[7] as in Jones' study, was to analyse results of longitudinal research data in the hope of finding a constellation of factors which might be important for the development of alcoholism, and its subsequent effects upon the alcoholic's personality. They used data from Dr. Cabot's (1935) longitudinal study of juvenile delinquency. Dr. Cabot's subjects originally consisted of 650 boys equally divided into 2 groups; one considered normal, the other pre-delinquent. The boys were matched for physical health, intelligence, emotional adjustment, home atmosphere and delinquency prognosis.

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6. Ibid., p. 336.

7. William McCord and Joan McCord, Origins of Alcoholism (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1960), pp. 6-21.

One from each pair was randomly chosen to be given medical and educational assistance and regular attention from social workers, who kept records of interviews and general development. The remaining 325 boys were not given special attention.[8] The object of the study was to prevent criminality. Two follow up studies in 1948 and 1956 found that the program had failed in its objective of preventing crime.

The McCords used the data from this study for research on alcoholism. They define an alcoholic as

> Any subject who had been a member of A.A., who had been referred to a hospital in Massachesetts for alcoholism, who was known as an alcoholic by the Boston Committee of Alcoholism or other social agencies, or who had been convicted by the courts for public drunkenness at least twice.[9]

The McCord study[10] provides us with a wealth of information regarding the home background of alcoholics and its importance in the development of alcoholism. Their results indicate that the homes of pre-alcoholics are more likely, in comparison with those of pre-nonalcoholics, to contain conditions of general stress to create

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8. Ibid., pp. 6-7.

9. Ibid., p. 11.

10. Ibid., pp. 47-84.

and sustain heightened dependence needs and to provide an environment conducive to role confusion.

The authors identify three factors which tend to create more stress and anxiety conditions in the pre-alcoholic household when compared to the pre-nonalcoholic household. These factors are;

a) intense parental conflict,

b) the children were raised in families characterized by incest or illegitimacy, and

c) children tended to be characterized by some neurological disorders.

By dependence, they mean the urge to give oneself over to unquestioning, undemanding maternal care, to be comforted and guided by others. The McCords conclude that the parents of pre-alcoholics alternate between extreme satisfaction of the child's dependence needs and punishing him for exhibiting these needs. This heightens the child's dependence needs. They found that pre-alcoholic subjects had homes characterized by

a) maternal alteration between active affection and rejection,

b) maternal escapism,

c) deviant mothers, i.e. criminal, promiscuous or alcoholic,

d) denigration of the mother by the father,

e) antagonistic relationship between the parents, and

f) maternal resentment of her role in the family.[11]

Children from such homes have a confused image of the male role. It was found, for example, that the pre-alcoholics when compared with the pre-non alcoholics had homes significantly more often exemplifying:

a) overt paternal rejection or paternal punitiveness,

b) paternal escapist reactions to crises,

c) absence of high parental demands for the child as represented in duties and responsibilities in the home,

d) an outsider (usually a relative) in conflict with the parents expectations of the child,

e) subnormal maternal restrictiveness, and

f) lack of supervision.[12]

A model (Figure II-I) was developed by the McCords, to explain the development of the personality of the alcoholic. The model specifies the environmental factors

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11. Ibid., p. 71.

12. Ibid., p. 82.

which the alcoholics are exposed to over an extended period of time and their reactions to these environmental stimuli. It illustrates that the alcoholics are exposed during childhood to an environment of general stress, exemplified by a high degree of family conflict, neurological disorders and families where incest and illigitimacy often prevailed. In addition the pre-alcoholic child is not offered a good male paternal model with whom he might identify. The father is typically antagonistic towards the son and exhibits escapist tendencies in situations of stress. Also the parents are lax in instilling a sense of responsibility in the child. They conclude that ''such children were raised in environments in which responsibilities of the male role were neither exemplified nor enforced.''[13] This results in the pre-alcoholic children exhibiting a confused self-image regarding their role in life.

Furthermore the child, under these conditions of stress, is exposed to erratic frustration of his dependence desires. Parental vacillation between loving indulgence and overt rejection, accompanied by maternal escapist tendencies, parental antagonism and a father

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13. Ibid., p. 153.

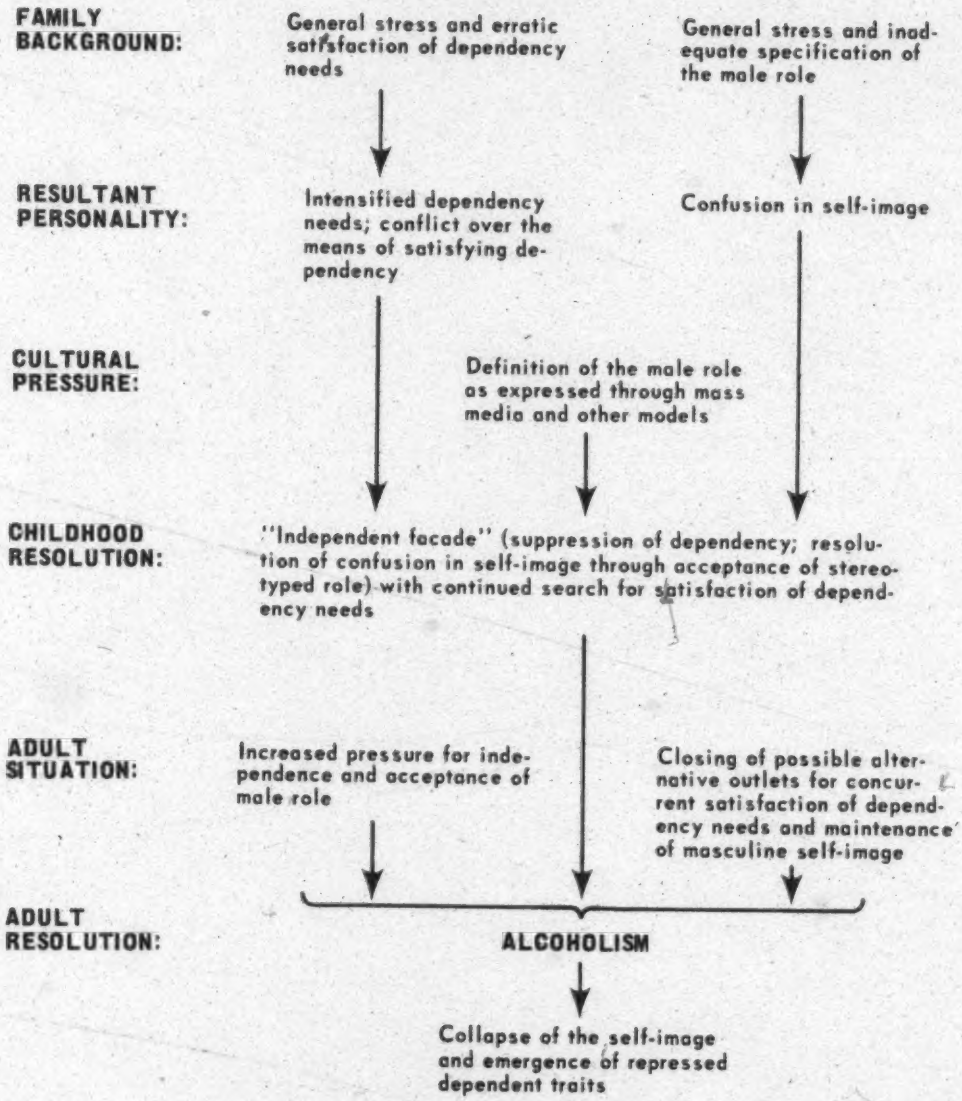
FAMILY BACKGROUND:
General stress and erratic satisfaction of dependency needs
General stress and inadequate specification of the male role
RESULTANT PERSONALITY:
Intensified dependency needs; conflict over the means of satisfying dependency
Confusion in self-image
CULTURAL PRESSURE:
Definition of the male role as expressed through mass media and other models
CHILDHOOD RESOLUTION:
"Independent facade" (suppression of dependency; resolution of confusion in self-image through acceptance of stereotyped role) with continued search for satisfaction of dependency needs
ADULT SITUATION:
Increased pressure for independence and acceptance of male role
Closing of possible alternative outlets for concurrent satisfaction of dependency needs and maintenance of masculine self-image
ADULT RESOLUTION:
ALCOHOLISM
Collapse of the self-image and emergence of repressed dependent traits

Figure II-I The McCord Model of Alcoholism

regarding the mother with low esteem, results in heightened dependence desires in the child. (See Figure II-I) The authors argue that "this strange combination of rewarding and punishing the child's need for love and maternal care would. . .cause extreme dependence conflict in the child."[14]

The McCords assert that in childhood and adolescence the pre-alcoholic resolves these dependence and self-image conflicts by hiding behide a masculine facade. The facade is the cultural stereotype of masculinity and is exemplified by highly aggressive, self-confident and independent overt behavior. The authors assume that dependence needs are repressed at this stage and that integrity of the self-image is partially preserved by an intensive and rigid adoption of the stereotype male role by the pre-alcoholic.

Thus, the pre-alcoholic finds himself in a precarious situation. To maintain his self-image he must fulfill the masculine role characterized by independence, while simultaneously repressing his heightened dependence needs. And yet, this stereotyped role with its emphasis on achievement and success cannot satisfy his dependence needs. It is this conflict that contin-

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14. Ibid.

uously prevails in the alcoholic that we refer to as the dependence-independence conflict. It is the primary reason for the use of alcohol as a coping mechanism. The McCords maintain that;

> Alcohol would be a major outlet available to such a person. When intoxicated, he could achieve feelings of warmth, comfort and omnipotence. His strong desires to be dependent would be satisfied. At the same time, he could maintain his self-image of independence and self-reliance. The hard drinker in American society is pictured as tough, extroverted, and manly — exactly the masculine virtues the alcoholic strives to incorporate into his own self-image.[15]

The remainder of the model, including the development of the increased use of alcohol and its eventual effects on the self-image are discussed later in the literature-review.

Another study by Hurwitz and Lelos[16] provides support for the conclusions of Lisansky and the McCords concerning the preconditions and correlates of alcoholism. This study suggests that alcoholics do, in fact, repress their strong dependence needs from their

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15. Ibid., p. 155.

16. Jacob I. Hurwitz and David Lelos, "A Multilevel Interpersonal Profile of Employed Alcoholics," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 29 (1968), pp. 64-76.

overt self-image, while simultaneously consciously accepting into their self-image the cultural stereotype of masculinity. Their sample consisted of 36 white male diagnosed alcoholic employees who were referred to the New York University Consultation Center for Alcoholism. Their mean age was 52.7 years, with 75 percent being blue collar workers averaging 30 years of employment.

The authors used a complex model developed by Leary (the Leary Interpersonal Multilevel Personality Model) to examine and compare interpersonal behavior of alcoholics at several personality levels (both conscious and pre-conscious). The first personality level measures how a person acts and consciously tries to appear to others. The second level measures his concious interpersonal self-image, as well as the interpersonal behavior of other persons important to him. The third level measures how the fantasizes his actions with others. The fourth measures his underlying character structure. The fifth level deals with his ideal self-image or how he idealizes his actions with others. The authors argue that comparisons among levels result in relevant personality measures, such as accuracy of self-perception, amount of self-

acceptance or rejection, the degree and type of repression, the extent of self-actualization, the extent of externalization of underlying operations, and the nature and extent of familial misperceptions. The various personality levels are measured by a variety of well-known psychological tests, including the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, the Interpersonal Check List and The Thematic Apperception Test.

A set of interpersonal variables, listed in a circular continuum, is used to categorize behavior at the various levels. (See Figure II-2) The grid, based on Leary's normative population, has a vertical axis measuring dominance-submissiveness and the horizontal measuring love-hate. The center of the grid represents the mean of Leary's normative population. Thus, the distance and direction from the center expresses the degree of deviation from the norm and the particular kind of interpersonal behavior. Superimposed on this grid are the four quadrants (each of which contains two octants) that are of particular interest to this study. The first quadrant labelled "hypernormal" includes dominant and overprotective behavior. The second quadrant is labelled sadistic which includes sarcastic and cruel behavior. The

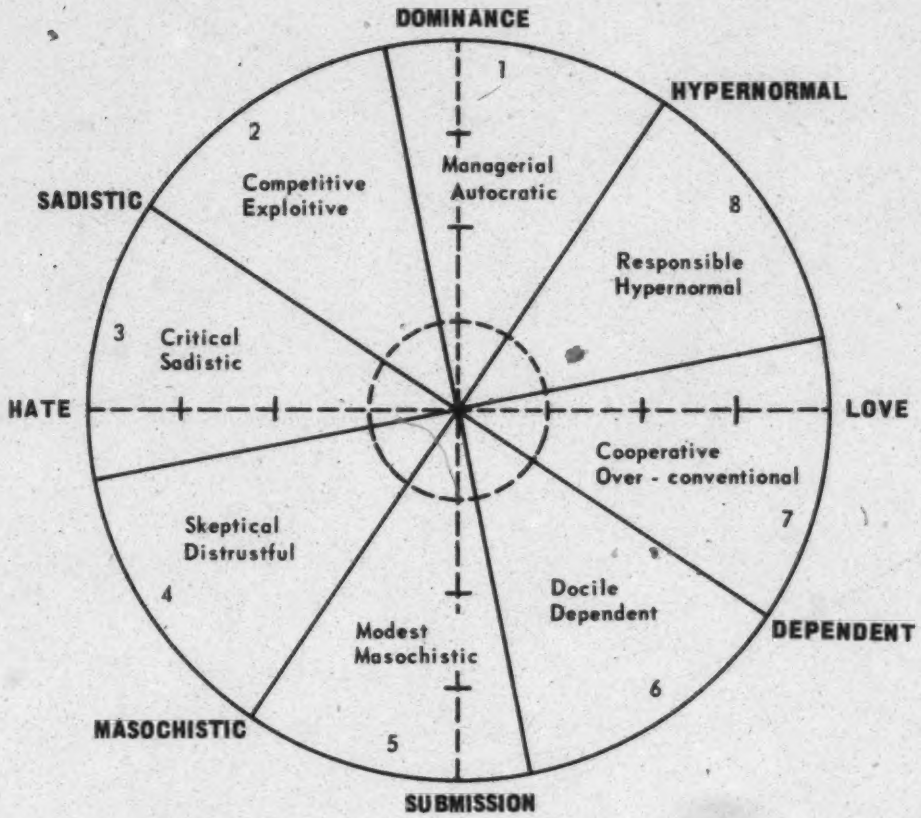

Figure II-2 Modified Version of the Leary Interpersonal Multilevel Personality Model

third or masochistic quadrant includes apologetic and self punishing behavior. The final fourth quadrant includes behavior manifesting dependence such as being easily led and letting others make decisions for oneself. According to Leary, a discrepancy of more than one octant indicates conflict.[17] If scores therefore are located at opposite octants, extreme conflict is indicated.

The data was analyzed according to the various levels and the results placed in the relevant quadrants. They found that four out of five alcoholics who display a public behavioral image of dominance and stringth, also describe themselves (conscious self-image) in identical terms. In other words, their public behavior is consciously internalized. This internalization of overt behavior seems to reflect a strong need among alcoholics to perceive themselves in harmony with the cultural stereotype of the masculine role. This is exemplified in their perception of the typical male. "All but one alcoholic perceive most men of similar age and occupational level . . .as being responsible and dominant persons."[18]

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17. Ibid., p. 67.
18. Ibid., p. 69.

Hurwitz and Lelos observe that the alcoholic group reflect a marked tendency to indentify with the stereotype of adult independence and responsibility. They found that, in spite of this public and conscious self-image of dominance and strength, two-thirds (24) of the sample yearn for a passive and dependent role in life.[19] However, they are unable to accept these dependence strivings because of societal demands for mature, independent behavior.

Finally, Hurwitz and Lelos observe that these results reveal considerable conflict and suggest a high degree of psychological strain. This is due to (employed) alcoholics maintenance of an outward defensive facade of adult independence wishes that are generally both consciously rejected and denied overt public expression. What is extremely important, according to Hurwitz and Lelos, is that the alcoholic is not aware of this conflict. His defensive facade seemingly is an unconscious attempt to cover up underlying dependence needs. As such, the conflict is perceived only as a pervasive feeling of tension and anxiety. The authors conclude that the use of alcohol:

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19. Ibid.

> resolves their severe dependence conflict or counters their overt dependence by allowing them to maintain a conscious public interpersonal and self-image of masculine adequacy based on their ability to drink like a man, while at the same time satisfying, in their drunken states, strong dependence yearning.[20]

In review, one observes a general consistency in the findings of these studies with respect to the fundamental etiology of alcoholism. They all suggest that pre-alcoholics have problems integrating the cultural stereotype of the masculine role with their high need for dependence. Jones[21] provides the most basic description of the conflict, stating that pre-alcoholics strongly value masculinity (and express this factor behaviorly) yet simultaneously feel very uncomfortable in dependence relationships. The Lisansky, Hurwitz and Lelos, and the McCord studies seem to examine dependence-independence, and its relationship to alcoholism in greater depth. Lisansky and the McCords[22] postulate that dependence is a heightened need resulting from particular environmental circumstances. Moreover, they subscribe to the belief that the crucial

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20. Ibid., p. 71.

21. See above, p. 12.

22. See above, p. 13 and p. 17.

stage for the emergence of the dependence-independence conflict and the subsequent development of alcoholism, lies in adolescence; it is during this period that adjustments to the male role must be made. Lisansky[23] analyses the advent of the conflict by hypothesizing that when demands of the adult role are made upon persons with heightened dependence needs, they react by trying (unsuccessfully) to repress their strong dependence needs. A chain reaction ensues. The creation of the dependence-independence conflict creates anxiety and tension, which results in the use of alcohol in order to lessen the strain. The McCords[24] present a simular picture of the dependence-independence conflict. The major difference lies in the analysis of the independence aspect of the conflict. They maintain that the pre-alcoholic makes an unusual adjustment to the male role. It is unusual in that it is an extreme adoption or internalization of the cultural stereotype of the masculine role. The Jones and Hurwitz and Lelos[25] results substantiate this conclusion. The McCords also

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23. See above, p. 14.

24. See above, p. 20.

25. See above, p. 12 and p. 25.

suggest that the rationale for adopting this male facade is to decrease the already existing dependence conflict to remedy the confusion of their self-image created by their home environment. An interesting relationship between these variables developes. Threats to the masculine facade of independence, tends to bring the repressed dependence needs to the surface and to lower the alcoholics tenuous but high self-image. Alcohol is seen as a unique device used to lessen the conflict.

Field Dependence-Independence

The concept of field dependence-independence is introduced at this point in the literature review because it adds support to the findings of the studies already discussed regarding etiological factors of alcoholism, and because research pertaining to this concept has increased our understanding of the psychology and behavior of pre-alcoholics.

Firstly, an explanation of field dependence-independence and its relationship to alcoholism is discussed, noting in particular the stability of field dependence in alcoholics. Next, a brief review of research on field dependence-independence is presented.

Then we attempt to integrate the findings with respect to field dependence, with those previously discussed that have noted a "dependence" syndrome in alcoholics.

Witkin[26] and his associates have shown that people exhibit particular ways of perceiving, which reflect basic aspects of personality. In their early research of perception/personality relationships, they found that people differed in their identification of the vertical position in space. People, they explain, have two methods with which to determine if their body is vertical or tilted and, when tilted, the amount and direction of the tilt. One way is to utilize the force of gravity to detect the true upright. Another method is to emphasize the surrounding visual field, (i.e. prominant verticals and horizontals) to assess the orientation of the body. Witkin et. al. found that some persons, whom they classified as field dependent, tend to determine the true upright position of their body by relying on cues from their environment, including the surrounding visual field; others, field

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26. Herman A. Witkin, Stephen A. Karp, and Donald R. Goodenough, "Dependence in Alcoholics," Quarterly Journal of Studies On Alcohol, 20 (1959), pp. 493-495.

independent persons, tend to disregard environmental cues and rely more upon sensations arising from within the body. Witkin et. al.[27] developed three tests to locate subjects on a field dependent-independent continuum. These were the body adjustment test (BAT), the rod and frame test (RFT), and the embedded figures test (EFT). Witkin notes that field independent subjects are able to deal with their surrounding field in an active, analytical fashion and to be adept at differentiating objects from their backgrounds; whereas, the field dependent subjects, on these tests, tend to reflect submission to the field's influence. In addition, he exclaims that the majority of people lie in the middle of the performance range.

The Relationship Between Field Dependence and Alcoholism

Witkin et. al. have performed a series of studies to determine relationship of field dependence-independence to alcoholism. In one study, Witkin et. al.[28] that alcoholics would be more field dependent in their perception than a control group. This hypothesis was

27. Ibid., pp. 494-495.

28. Ibid., p. 499.

based on the general dependence that alcoholics manifest, which had been recorded in previous research in alcoholism. Subjects were 20 male alcoholics with a mean age of 30.1 and who had been sober for at least three days, and a control group of 51 college men. The BAT, RFT and EFT were administered to all subjects. They found that as a group the alcoholics are more field dependent than non-alcoholics. They concluded that field dependence-independence may measure the general dependence of alcoholics reported in the literature. This will be explored in greater detail later in this chapter.

Another study was conducted by Witkin et. al.[29] to determine whether age, education and ethno-religious background were related to alcoholism. A group of 30 male alcoholics were matched for age, education and ethno-religious status, with a control group of college students. All subjects were given the BAT, RFT and the EFT to measure field dependence. They found that the alcoholics when matched for age, education and ethno-religious status, remained more field de-

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29. Ibid., pp. 499-500.

pendent.

In a third study Witkin et. al.[30] note that alcoholism is a form of psychopathology (i.e. characterized by extreme egocentric and antisocial activity). They hypothesized that the field dependence of alcoholics may be associated with the presence of psychopathology, rather than with alcoholism per se. They compared 20 alcoholic patients with a group of 20 psychiatric patients. The latter group included 9 clinically diagnosed schizophrenics, 9 psychopathic, 1 as a schizoid personality and one as psychoneurotic. The groups were matched for age with the alcoholics averaging 27.5 years (range 20 to 33) and the psychiatric patients averaging 26.6 years of age (range 21 to 36). Again the BAT, EFT and RFT were administered and mean index scores tabulated. They found that alcoholics were generally more field dependent than the subjects who were mentally ill.

They conclude that psychopathology, per se, is not a likely source of the field dependence-independence differences found between non-alcoholics and alco-

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30. Ibid., p. 501.

holics. In another study Witkin et. al.[31] compared field dependent scores of alcoholics who had successfully remained dry for a period of two years or more with those of a control group of college students. They found a greater field dependence in the dry alcoholic group than the control group. This suggests a continuity of field dependence in alcoholics even after a period of sobriety. Witkin[32] et. al. cite additional preliminary findings in which early family experiences of field dependent children were studied. They found that classifications of mothers in terms of general upbringing of the child, showed a significant relationship to the perceptual performance of their children.

> Children with a more field dependent style of perceiving commonly had mothers who were characterized as essentially growth constricting.[33]

They conclude, therefore, that a field dependent way of perceiving reflects limited progress toward differentiation which may be related to growth restricting forces in the child's early development.

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31. Ibid., p. 502.

32. Ibid., p. 503.

33. Ibid.

These findings will be analyzed later in greater detail.

Witkin et. al. conclude from the above findings that this "field dependent perceptual style reflects a general personality constellation rather than the alcoholic symptom per se."[34] "People with such a personality pattern commonly adopt alcoholism as a way out of their difficulties."[35] This suggests that field dependence is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for the development of alcoholism.

Stability of field dependence in alcoholics: Other studies have since been conducted to supplement and extend Witkin's initial work concerning the relationship between field dependence and alcoholism. Karp et. al.[36] performed a study to determine the stability of field dependence in alcoholics. The authors examined the effect on the level of field dependence of acute intoxication. It was hypothesized that if field dependence is a result of alcoholism, field dependence

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34. Ibid.

35. Ibid.

36. Stephen A. Karp, Herman A. Witkin and Donald R. Goodenough, "Effect of Alcohol on Field Dependence," Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 70 (1965), pp. 262-265.

may be greater in the intoxicated state than in the sober state. Twenty-four male alcoholics were chosen, and given an embedded figures test, the rod and frame test and the body adjustment test according to Witkin's methodology. Half the cases, chosen at random, were tested first while sober; the other half were tested in the wet condition first and tested again (after sufficient time had elapsed) when sober. An analysis of variance was carried out for each of the three perceptual tests, examining the effect of intoxication, retesting order, and checking for possible interaction between intoxication and retesting.

The results suggested that the extent of field dependence in alcoholics does not vary with their degree of sobriety. Moreover, the authors conclude that these results increase the plausibility that field dependence in a predisposing factor for alcoholism.

In another study, Karp et. al.[37] investigate the long range effects of alcoholism on field dependence. They assume that both age and onset of drinking may be

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37. Stephen A. Karp and Norma L. Konstadt, "Alcoholism And Psychological Differentiation: Long Range Effect Of Heavy Drinking On Field Dependence," Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, 140 (1965), 412-416.

inter-related in determining the long range effect of alcohol on field dependence. They compared an older group of alcoholics (mean age 47.8 years-range 42 to 55 years) with a group of non-alcoholics (mean age 48.10 years-range 42 to 56 years). They also compared a group of younger alcoholics (mean age 27.40 years-range 22 to 32 years) with a control group of young non-alcoholics (mean age 27.45-range 21 to 32). The alcoholic groups were further differentiated in terms of the duration of drinking histories, represented by the onset of social and heavy drinking prior to the time of the study. Thus, for the older group of alcoholics, an average of 25.25 years (range 14 to 32 years) had elapsed between the onset of social drinking and the time of the study. For the younger alcoholic group, the comparable figures were a mean of 8.85 (range 1 to 15 years). The older group had been committed to heavy drinking an average of 18.35 years prior to the study (range 10 to 30 years); the corresponding figure for the younger alcoholic group was 5.95 years (range 1 to 14 years).

The four groups were given the BAT, RFT and EFT tests. The results suggest that field dependence among adults significantly increases with age, and

that alcoholics at all ages are significantly more field dependent than non-alcoholics. Another important finding was that long years of heavy drinking, per se, does not affect field dependence. Karp et. al.[38] therefore conclude that field dependence is a stable characteristic of alcoholics throughout the alcoholic cycle.

Jacobson et. al.[39] investigated whether abstinence leads to decreased field dependence among hospitalized alcoholics. Thirty-seven male alcoholics were selected from Chicago's Alcoholic Treatment Center and administered the RFT within 7 to 14 days from admission and within one or two days prior to discharge. For all subjects, the mean number of days at the center was 45.77, mean days in the center prior to the RFT was 10.65 and mean intervening days between tests was 33.49. Student t tests were calculated to compare the overall difference in mean scores on the two trials. Their results indicate that field dependence

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38. Ibid., p. 415.

39. George R. Jacobson, Vincent D. Pisani, and Harris L. Berenbaum, "Temporal Stability of Field Dependence Among Hospitalized Alcoholics," Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 76 (1970), pp. 10-12.

is not affected by the abstinence from alcohol in chronic alcoholics.

The foregoing studies have demonstrated that field dependence is a basic personality characteristic of alcoholics. Furthermore, these studies imply that field dependence preceed the development of alcoholism and may underlay the general syndrome of dependence that the literature suggests is characteristic of alcoholics. These findings are of extreme importance if we hope to integrate field dependence theory with the theories of Jones, Lisansky, the McCords and Hurwitz and Lelos[40] with respect to the determinants of alcoholism. To accomplish this in any definite way it would be necessary to establish that field dependence is a precondition of the onset of alcoholism. This as far as we are aware, has not yet been done. Witkin et. al.[41] for example, are merely content with observing that alcoholics have frequently been described as dependent.

Stability of the pre-alcoholic personality: To prove conclusively that field dependence predates al-

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40. See above, pp. 11-12, pp. 13-14, pp. 18-20, and pp. 25-26.

41. H. A. Witkin, Stephen A. Karp, and Donald R. Goodenough, "Dependence in Alcoholics," 1959, p. 498.

coholism would require an extensive longitudinal study. To date, as far as we are aware, no one has attempted such a study. However, another method, while not being as conclusive as the above, is available. If one compares the findings of Witkin et. al.[42] concerning the home backgrounds of field dependent children with those of the longitudinal studies concerning alcoholics, one finds persuasive evidence of the stability of the pre-alcoholic personality. We will attempt such a comparitive analysis, in this section of our thesis, in the hope of demonstrating that in the alcoholic, the need for dependence is a personality trait that predates the state of alcoholism.

Witkin et. al.[43] hypothesized that mothers of children whose differentiation is limited practice methods of child rearing which interfere with the opportunities for psychological differentiation, and that highly differentiated children have mothers whose child rearing techniques permit or facilitate progress toward differentiation.

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42. H. A. Witkin, et. al. Psychological Differentiation (New York: Wiley and Sons, 1962), p. 271-367.

43. Ibid., p. 273.

To test this hypothesis two separate studies were performed by Witkin and his associates. In the first study, Witkin et. al.[44] were concerned with whether a mother, considering her personal characteristics and nature of her interaction with her child, had permitted her child to have an identity of his own; whether the mother's personal values and standards were such that she could help her child achieve an articulated sense of himself and his environment, and finally, whether she interacted with the child in such a way as to help him develop control over his impulses. Thus, for example, Witkin et. al.[45] argue that mothers who were overprotective and overattentive might handicap a child's sense of separate identity, while mothers lacking self-assurance would hinder the development of articulated experiences for a child, and indulgent submissive behavior by mothers would not give a child enough support for controlling his impulses.

On the basis of this analysis of the interview data, the fifty-eight mothers were divided into two groups. One group consisted of mothers judged as exhibiting

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44. Ibid., pp. 278-279.

45. Ibid., p. 279.

interaction which would inhibit differentiation in their children (IID). The other group were characterized as exhibiting interaction which fostered differentiation (IFD) in their children.

The IID and IFD ratings of mothers were compared (using correlations) to their childrens' perceptual field dependence-field independence index scores. The findings indicated that mothers of children with a more global field approach (field dependence) had had the kinds of relations with their children which tended to inhibit the childrens' progress toward differentiation. Whereas, the mothers of children with a more analytical field approach (field independence) tended to interact with their children in such a way as to foster the development of differentiation in their children.

A second study was conducted by Witkin et. al.[46] to test the former hypothesis. In this study, the more highly differentiated (field independence) children and children with a more global perceptual style (field dependent) used in the prior study, were given the Thematic Apperception Test (TAT) to ascertain

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46. Ibid., pp. 327-334.

what attitudes they maintained towards their parents. Scores on this test were correlated with their field dependence-independence scores. It was found that children with a more global perceptual style (field dependent) portray their parents as being relatively non-supporting. The more analytical (field independent) children regarded their parents as relatively more supportive. For example, global children describe their parents (in the TAT) as being physically aggressive, brutalizing and overpowering toward their children. Field independent children described their parents quite differently. Furthmore, the field dependent children reported that parental authority was exercised in an arbitrary, tyranical and inflexible manner. Field independent children saw the parents as being more reasonable, flexible and mild when exercising authority. Witkin[47] concludes that field dependent children portray, on TAT stories, mothers as unloving, punitive, unable to give help and guidance and exercising parental authority in an arbitrary fashion, providing further support for the hypothesis.

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47. Ibid., p. 331.

Witkin supports his own findings by citing the results of a study by Seder.[48] Seder found that;

1) parents of field-dependent boys and girls consistently pushed their children towards goals and standards which the parents had set, whereas parents of field-independent children tended to allow their children to set their own standards and to meet them on their own terms,

2) discipline by parents of field-dependent boys were authoritarian including physical and verbal aggression, ridicule, shame, threats of withdrawal of love; and discipline by field-independent parents was more democratic, including denial of privileges, isolation and reasoning,

3) punishment by mothers of field dependent boys tended to be dictated by the personal moods and whims of parents, with the result that control is not in the direction of a child's achieving mature goals, or becoming responsible or is constantly directed against the child's asserting himself,

4) the field dependent boys generally came from

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48. J. A. Seder, "The origin of differences in extent of independence in children: development factors in perceptual field dependence," as quoted in Witkin et. al. Psychological Differentiation, 1962, pp. 352-355.

maternally dominated homes, with a passive father providing an inadequate model.

These findings that parents of field dependent children often exercised authority in an arbitrary manner; pushed their children toward goals and standards which the parents had set; were authoritarian in their general child rearing practice; and were unable to instill a strong sense of responsibility in their child - are very similar to findings of the McCords, Pollmer, and Clinebell[49] regarding the pre-alcoholic home environment. This similarity in the home backgrounds of field-dependent and pre-alcoholic children, suggests that pre-alcoholics might be field-dependent and this perceptual style and its affection (need) correlates continues into adult years.

We will now attempt to expand the relationship between field dependence and our knowledge of the etiology of alcoholism.

Field dependence and the general concept of dependence: Witkin et. al. maintain that when internal frames

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49. See above, p. 18., Elizabeth Pollmer, Alcoholic Personalities (New York: Exposition Press, 1965), pp. 153-155., Howard J. Clinebell, Understanding and Counselling the Alcoholic (New York: Abingdon Press, 1956), p. 45.

of reference do not develop, self-definition is subject to determination from without.[50] This suggests that the field dependent person lacks a separate identity. In fact, authors generally describe field dependent persons as lacking a well-developed sense of their own identity and separateness from others.[51]

Field dependence as described above involved a generalized personality characteristic that involves a strong reliance upon the external field for support and guidance of behavior. The McCords referred to dependence as a need for maternal care, love, support and guidance.[52] The connection between this type of dependence and field-dependence seems clear. Field dependence is the cognitive aspect of an overall dependence on the environment for support. The dependence needs, as defined by the McCords and Lisansky are merely specific aspects of this general personality pattern. Hence, Witkin's conclusion that field dependence measures "dependence" as generally found in the litera-

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50. H. A. Witkin et. al., Psychological Differentiation, 1962, p. 134.

51. J. V. Spotts and B. Mocklen, "Relationships of Field Dependent and Field Independent Cognitive Styles to Creative Test Performance," Perceptual Motor Skills, 24 (1967), pp. 239-269.

52. See above, p. 17.

ture regarding alcoholism, seems tenable.

Field dependence and repression: To this point, we have argued that field dependence is a cognitive measure of a general personality pattern of dependence found in pre-alcoholics. This section is concerned with relating field dependence to repression.

One would expect the alcoholic, as a typical field dependent person, to overtly express his dependence needs in his behavior. However, there is some evidence to suggest that the alcoholic is a special case of field dependence in that these strong dependence needs are repressed, this tendency is also found in obese and ulcer patients who are field dependent.[53]

Blane and Chafetez[54] assumed that field dependence is a covert measure of dependence, and therefore measures the basic underlying factors of dependence. They hypothesized that this innate dependence would not be overtly manifested in their sample of delinquents who were also problem drinkers, but would be

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53. B. Gordon, "An experimental study of dependence-independence in a social and laboratory setting," as quoted in Witkin et. al. Psychological Differentiation, 1962, p. 207.

54. Howard T. Blane and Morris E. Chafetez, "Dependency Conflict and Sex-Role Identity in Drinking Delinquents," Quarterly Journal Of Studies On Alcohol, 32 (1971), pp. 1025-1038.

observed in delinquents who were moderate and minimal drinkers. They proposed that field dependent problem drinking delinquents, when given self-conscious options, will chose the most independent one. The subjects, used in this study, ranged from 14 to 16 years of age. The Rod and Frame Test was used to indentify field dependence, and the Dependency Situation Test to measure manifest or overt dependence in both the problem and non-problem drinking delinquent groups. An F test was used to compare the means. The results indicated that delinquents who were problem drinkers scored high on covert dependence and low on manifest dependence. These findings reinforce the contention that the pre-alcoholic and the later alcoholic exemplify a distinct case of field dependence, in which dependence needs are repressed from conscious awareness.

In summary field dependence theory has reinforced and amplified the findings by Lisansky, Jones, Hurwitz and Lelos, and the McCords,[55] concerning the development of alcoholism. The theory is especially valuable,

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55. See above, pp. 10-26.

in that it provides an even better understanding of the dependence-independence conflict (derived from these studies of alcoholism), as a major force in the development of alcoholism.

Field Dependence and the Dependence-Independence Conflict

In the succeeding pages, the theory of field dependence-independence is utilized to explain the nature and origin of this conflict, and its relationship to alcoholism.

The studies presented earlier in this chapter demonstrated the importance of environmental factors in creating these personality traits associated with a generalized dependence need. We have argued that field dependence relates to the cognitive aspects of these needs. Furthermore, we have suggested that this perceptual style predates alcoholism and prevails throughout the alcoholism cycle. Moreover, because field dependence relates to modes of perceiving of which the individual is usually unaware, it can indicate the existence of dependence needs (for love, support and guidance) both before and after they have been repressed by the alcoholic. These assumptions

have been supported by the findings of Blane and Chafetez.[56]

From what has already been said about the personality of the field dependent person, it is clear that striving for masculinity and independence is not an innate or natural tendency of such an individual. He is naturally dependent not independent. Therefore, the question arises as to why a field dependent pre-alcoholic would strive for independence and masculinity?

The McCords[57] conclude that three factors underly this behavior. They see the adoption of the masculine facade as a reaction to psychological confusion. The pre-alcoholic's father provides a very poor example of the male role. This leads to self-image and role confusion accompanied by continual frustration of the pre-alcoholic's dependence needs. The confused child adopts the cultural stereotype of masculinity, as a way out of this confusion. From his perspective, adoption of this masculine facade eliminates his role and dependence confusion and helps him maintain a high self-image.

By adopting this facade, which is antithetical to

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57. See above, p. 18-21.

his basic personality, the pre-alcoholic is actually trying to repress his dependence needs. A rigid adherence to this masculine stereotype image with its emphasis upon dominance, independence, and aggression, simply cannot satisfy his strong underlying dependence needs- his needs for love, support and guidance. These needs are therefore repressed and are thus removed from his self-concept. The McCords suggest that the dependence-independence conflict arises as the pre-alcoholic tries to sustain his stereotype masculine facade against environmental threats, while continually trying to repress his dependence needs.

Field dependence-independence theory supports much of this argument. For example, it would be natural for a field dependent child, in an environment involving role and dependence confusion, if constantly presented by the communication media with a certain image of the masculine prototype, to adopt this role model in toto. However, this inevitably leads to a conflict between his basic personality needs and his need to preserve this false image. Seeking refuge in alcohol is a direct consequence of his unnatural and rigid adherence to the masculine facade. If this facade were not so rigidly held, his basic dependence needs could be ex-

pressed thereby releasing much of his psychological confusion. However, as we shall see later, his high self-concept (i.e. his extremely favorable opinion of himself, associated with his perceptions of his close approximation to the masculine prototype) operates to prolong the conflict.

Evidence seems to be accumulating in the literature that persons of high and low self-esteem have developed certain mechanisms to preserve their self-image. Silverman[58] observes that persons regulate their cognitive input in accordance with their level of self-esteem. He argues, for example, that persons low in self-esteem portray a pattern of adjustment to their environment, which necessitates the maintenance of a low self-evaluation. He suggests that this low self-evaluation provides a justification for dependent behavior, and lessens anxiety related to anticipated failure. Scotland et. al.[59] observe that persons with high self-esteem protect themselves against unfavorable evaluations (as measured by failure on a task) better

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58. Irwin Silverman, "Self-esteem and Differential Responsiveness to Success and Failure," Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 69 (1964), p. 118.

59. Ezra Scotland, et. al., "The Effects of Group Expectations and Self-Esteem Upon Self-Evaluation," Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 54 (1957), p. 61-62.

than those low in self-esteem. Additional support for the contention that people regulate information in accordance with their level of self-concept, has recently come from Shrauger and Rosenberg.[60] They concluded from their research that changes in self-perception were greater when the feedback was consistent with a subject's overall level of self-evaluation. High self-esteem subjects showed greater positive change in their self-concepts following positive feedback, while low self-esteem subjects showed greater negative change following negative feedback. High self-esteem persons tended to limit negative feedback to their self-concepts and actively accept favorable feedback while low self-esteem persons reacted in the reverse fashion.

One would suspect that this type of regulation of information to conform to the individual's self-concept, will be more apparent in the case of field dependent persons than field independent persons. Field dependence-independence has been shown to be a cognitive style i.e. a particular mode of perceiv-

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60. J. Sidney Shrauger and Saul E. Rosenberg, "Self-esteem and the effects of success and failure feedback on performance," Journal of Personality, 38 (1970), pp. 410-413.

ing. It is exemplified behaviorally by subjects who are strongly reliant on the surrounding field. It is therefore not surprising that some investigators have reported consistent findings showing that field dependent persons are more strongly affected (in performance) by both positive and negative feedback than field independent performers.[61] Randolph's[62] findings, for example, using 180 field dependent and field independent fifth graders, showed that conditions of praise and criticism had far greater effect on the performance of the field dependent subjects.

Our discussion of the rigidity with which the masculine facade is held by the pre-alcoholic helps us to understand the reaction of this type of particular

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61. Jack G. Furel, Jr., "The Differential Performance of Lower Class Preschool, Negro Children As A Function Of The Sex Of E, Sex Of S, Reinforcement, Reinforcement Condition, And Level of Field Dependence," (Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Southern Mississippi, 1971), 136 pp., Larry MacDonald and Carl Danson, "Effect of Feedback on Counting Rate as a Function of Field Dependence," Journal of Experimental Research In Personality, 3-4 (1968-1970), pp. 116-121., Lawrence Clifford Randolph, "A Study Of The Effects Of Praise, Criticism And Failure On The Problem Solving Performance Of Field-Dependent and Field-Independence Individuals," (Ph.D. Dissertation, New York University, 1971), 116 pp.

62. Ibid.

field dependent person, to his environment. We have proposed that the adoption of the masculine facade is necessary to eliminate self-concept confusion in the field dependent pre-alcoholic. Furthermore, once this facade is adopted in to the self-concept (i.e. becomes internalized) its continuance becomes vital to the maintenance of a high self-concept.

Summary of the Etiology Factors of Alcoholism

To this point the literature review has been devoted to providing a thorough understanding of the alcoholic and pre-alcoholic personality structure. It has shown that the development of alcoholism follows a definite pattern, with specific environmental and personality patterns prevailing. The pre-alcoholic has been shown to express heightened dependence needs occasioned by specific environmental circumstances. He attempts to repress these dependence needs by internalysing an unrealistically strong masculine facade. This results in a conflict which, especially under certain circumstances, results in the use of alcohol as a coping device. The self-concept has been shown to be an important factor in the development of alcoholism. It is actively involved in the adoption and rigid adherence to

the masculine facade. This key relationship between the dependent-independent conflict and the self-concept of alcoholics, is of vital importance to our research problem, since we hold that employed and unemployed alcoholics differ in their self-concepts, psychological needs and depression level. These variables will be discussed extensively in the next section.

The Self-Concept and Psychological Needs of the Alcoholic

We have suggested that field dependent persons who develop a dependence-independence conflict, normally use alcohol to help alleviate the conflict. However, we have not discussed why this person increases his consumption of alcohol and the effects of this on his self-concept. We propose to analyse these problems in this section of our dissertation.

The McCords suggest that the use of alcohol helps to cope with repressed dependence needs. When intoxicated, the alcoholic would be oblivious to the ever present internal conflict created by the repression of these innate needs. The McCords argue "that the confirmed alcoholic increases his consumption of alcohol

because intoxication satisfies his dependence needs and obliterates reminders of his inadequacies."[63] Feelings of inadequacy occur as problems are encountered that threaten the alcoholic's unstable self-image and the facade of masculinity around which it is built. This strong, negative feedback to the self-image may be precipitated by the use of alcohol directly as its use may decrease performance, both socially and occupationally. The feedback may, however, originate from external circumstances independent of the alcoholic. In either case, the self-image falters as the alcoholic's masculine facade is challenged. Thus, repression becomes less and less effective, and alcohol loses its potency as a coping mechanism as its consumption is increased. The result is that the self-image falters and repressed dependence needs become openly expressed.

Several studies by Gross and Alder, Berg, Vander-

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63. William McCord and Joan McCord, p. 156.

pool and Connor[64] have concluded that alcoholics have lower self-concepts than non-alcoholics. These studies are not analysed in depth here because their conclusions only permit broad speculations to our theory regarding the stages of the dependence-independence conflict. However, there are certain implications from them that are of some importance for this study.

According to our theory, the alcoholic will portray a low self-concept, and more overtly express dependence needs, when his masculine facade is shattered. A fairly obvious expression of dependence needs would be an alcoholic's attempt to actively seek help for his problems. All of the above studies (comparing alcoholics with non-alcoholics) use alcoholic subjects involved in an alcoholic treatment program. The inference would be that the masculine facade of these alcoholics has collapsed, resulting in a comparatively

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64. William F. Gross and Linda O. Alder, "Aspects of Alcoholics Self-Concept Scale," Psychological Reports, 27 (1970), pp. 431-434., Norman L. Berg, "Effects of Alcohol Intoxication on Self-Concept," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 32 (1971), pp. 442-453., James A. Vanderpool, "Alcoholism and the Self-Concept," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 30 (1969), pp. 59-77., R.G. Connor, "The Self-Concepts of Alcoholics," (Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Washington, 1961), p. 59.

low self-concept. We suggest that these studies employed a biased sample of alcoholics, and made erroneous inference to the population of alcoholics. Our theory strongly suggests that only a portion of the population of alcoholics will express low self-concepts. More specifically, only those alcoholics who manifest a late stage of the dependence-independence conflict would have low self-concepts. We maintain that various sub-populations of alcoholics will exhibit different levels of the self-concept depending on the stage of the conflict.

Differences in self-concept among sub-populations of alcoholics: Several research studies have indicated that sub-populations of alcoholics may express different psychological needs and self-concepts depending on the stage of the dependence-independence conflict. Vanderpool,[65] for example, noted self-concept differences between two alcoholic sub-populations. The subjects were comprised of 50 veterans (the experimental alcohol group, EAG) in a Special Alcoholism Treatment unit at Downey Veterans Hospital, Downey, Illinois; and 50 subjects (comprising the control

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65. Vanderpool, pp. 59-77.

alcoholism group, CAG) divided between veterans of the Special unit and non-veterans from the Chicago Alcoholic Treatment Center. Education, intelligence and age were comparable for both groups and all subjects were rated by the Tennessee Self-Concept Scale and Gough's Adjective Check List.

The author found that on the Tennessee Self-Concept Scale the two groups differed on three of 29 variables: self-satisfaction, personal self and total variability, with the experimental group scoring lower on the first two and higher on the third. Similar findings were found on the Adjective Check List. The CAG and EAG groups differed significantly on 10 of the 24 scales found in the Check List. Higher scores were reported by the CAG on achievement, dominance, number of favorable adjectives checked, and personal adjustment; all of which reflect an adherence to the masculine facade in addition to a higher self-concept. The EAG, scored higher on such needs as succorance, deference and abasement, which imply a generally lower opinion of self, and a more open expression of repressed dependence needs.

Unfortunately, insufficient information was given in the study for accurate determination of why the EAG's

masculine facade had apparently disintegrated, as evinced by their lower scores (as compared with the CAG) on needs pertaining to the facade; and higher scores related to dependence needs. The results, however, indicated that sub-populations of alcoholics manifest different self-concept and need levels.

Another study, by Conner,[66] attempted to find self-concept differences between various sub-populations of alcoholics. Connor used the Adjective Check List developed by Gough to obtain and compare the self-concepts of several alcoholic sub-populations, including;

a) sanitarium patients,

b) jail prisoners,

c) persons belonging to Alcoholics Anonymous

d) a group of female alcoholics, and

e) penitentiary prisoners.

An overall self-concept rating of individuals was arrived at by calculating a self-acceptance index developed by Gough, whereby the self-acceptance index = $\frac{\text{total \# of favorable adjectives checked}}{\text{total \# of adjectives checked}}$.

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66. Connor, pp. 26-27.

Connors concludes that sub-populations of alcoholics have different self-acceptance levels with variations reflected in the index scores of different groups as follows; private sanitorium patients (.442), jail prisoners (.384), Alcoholics Anonymous groups (.376), female alcoholic members of A.A. (.375), and finally penitentiary prisoners (.358).[67] The results of Connors study clearly support our contention that various sub-populations of alcoholics would express different self-concept levels.

Mindlin also conducted a study on self-concepts in alcoholic sub-populations. Mindlin[68] attempted to obtain information on the differences among alcoholics who affiliate with alcoholics anonymous (N=38), those who seek psychotherapy (N=40) and those who reject help (N=54). Subjects were matched for the characteristics of onset and severity of alcoholism, as measured by the Jackson H. Scale of Alcoholism. In addition a 137 item questionnaire was administered to measure each subject's motivation, drinking attitude and knowledge about alcoholism, self-esteem, dependence,

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67. Ibid., p. 69.

68. Dorothy F. Mindlin, "Attitudes Toward Alcoholism and Toward Self: Differences Between Three Alcoholic Groups," Quarterly Journal Of Studies On Alcohol, 25 (1964), p. 136.

and social isolation. Age of subjects were comparable with the no-help group indicating a slightly lower education level.

Mindlin[69] found that the no-help group expressed lower motivation for change, less understanding about the nature of alcoholism and higher self-esteem and lower dependence. The psychotherapy group were the most highly motivated for change and the most knowledgeable with the lowest self-esteem and highest dependence needs.

In summary, these studies reinforce the general argument presented earlier that various sub-populations would differ in their self-concepts. These studies also provide some indication that sub-populations exhibit different conflict stages. For example, the sanitarium patients would be expected (as verified in Connor's study) to exhibit high self-concepts, while their masculine stereotype image remains basically intact. Whereas, the penitentiary inmate has probably not lived up to his masculine self-image, and hence has a lower self-concept. The results of Mindlin also support our assumptions concerning the conflict

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69. Ibid., pp. 139-140.

stages. Her no-help group indicated an early stage in the conflict as determined by their high self-esteem and low expression of their dependence. The therapy group displayed low self-esteem and overtly showed their dependence, thereby indicating that their masculine facade had collapsed.

The relation of psychological needs to the dependence-independence conflict: We have argued that alcoholics suppress their needs for dependence until the masculine facade collapsed, when they normally become more openly displayed. Alternatively, prior to the collapse of the facade of independence, alcoholics would possess strong needs for achievement, dominance and other overt needs that are expressive of their manliness.

A previously cited study by Hurwitz and Lelos,[70] using employed alcoholics as subjects, supported this conjecture. The authors found that employed alcoholics emphasized a masculine stereotype image (of dominance and strength) in both their behavior and conscious self-image; whereas beneath this image they expressed strong dependence needs. This study was largely com-

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70. See above, pp. 21-26.

posed of alcoholics who had not yet succumbed to more open expression of their dependence needs.

Hoffmans study[71] however, utilized subjects who were hospitalized for their alcoholic problems and, as Mindlin[72] found, seemingly more openly expressive of their dependence needs. Hoffmans study was specifically designed to investigate and provide normative data concerning alcoholics on the Personality Research Form, and to compare them with Prince's (1969) non-alcoholic group, in order to broaden understanding of alcoholic's personality characteristics. His sample included 377 hospitalized male alcoholics with the same median age (42) as group C of Prince's control group. All subjects completed the Personality Research Form. Subsequent data was analysed by t tests, with results indicating that in the area of interpersonal orientation, alcoholics seem to require personal contact. This requirement is indicated by high scores in affiliation, enjoyment of being with people; nurturance, readiness to help others and succorance, wish for protection and need for love and reassurance from others. Further-

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71. Helmut Hoffman, "Personality Characteristics Of Alcoholics In Relation To Age," Psychological Reports, 27 (1970), pp. 167-171.

72. See above, p. 61.

more, alcoholics achieved lower scores on aggression and autonomy and dominance than the non-alcoholic control group. Thus, as Hoffman concludes, alcoholics seemed to perceive themselves as being less combative or quarrelsome, less independent or self-determined and very submissive. As our theory would suggest, this group of alcoholics occupy a late stage of the dependence-independence conflict.

In another study, Chambers and Braussard[73] hypothesized that the systematic comparison of need attitude clusters of normal and maladjusted groups would provide indications of the role of need attitude in adjustment. Their sample included four groups of 100 males each. Groups were composed of normal subjects, alcoholics, and chronic and non-chronic schizophenics. A Picture Identification Test corresponding to Murray's need scales was administered to all groups. Subjects sorted pictures according to positive and negative attitude and ranked the strength of this attitude on a need. Intercorrelations were computed between the 21

73. J.S. Chambers and L.J. Braussard, "The role of need attitudes in adjustment," Journal of Clinical Psychology, 16 (1960), pp. 383-387.

need attitude scores. Data obtained suggested that alcoholics require more unlearning for succorance and inferiority needs, than do normal subjects. These results, as in the previous study by Hoffman, indicated that this group of alcoholics were in a late stage of the dependence-independence conflict.

In summary, the self-concept literature seems to generally support our theoretical assumption that alcoholics exhibit different stages of the dependence-independence conflict. The results of the studies in this section suggest that alcoholics who outwardly indicate their dependence needs generally reveal low self-concepts and psychological needs, that indicate the obliteration of the masculine facade. In contrast, alcoholics in the earlier stages of the conflict show psychological needs and a self-concept, clearly demonstrating retention of the masculine facade of independence and repression of their natural needs for dependence.

Depression

This section reviews the literature relating depression to alcoholism and the self-concept.

Types of depression: A review of the literature

regarding depression necessitates the making of a distinction between two primary types of depression: reactive (neurotic), and endogeneous (psychotic). Both Klerma and Kiloh et. al.[74] in separate comprehensive reviews of the literature, conclude that the separation of depression into reactive and endogeneous catagories is of paramount importance. Klerma maintains that:

> Implicit in the neurotic-psychotic dichotomy is that psychotic disorders are likely to be biological in causation, whereas neurotic disorders are probably due to stress or personality dynamics.[75]

The reactive or neurotic type of depression is seen as an exaggeration of normal responses to life events, normally precipitated by some immediate stress.[76] In contrast, the endogeneous pattern ascribes a relative absence of a precipitating event.[77]

Depression and alcoholism: This classification

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74. Gerald L. Klerma, "Clinical Research In Depression," Archives of General Psychiatry, 24 (1971), pp. 305-319., L. G. Kiloh, and R. F. Garside, "The Independence of Neurotic and Endogeneous Depression," British Journal of Psychiatry, 109 (1963), p. 451-463.

75. Klerma, p. 311.

76. Ibid., p. 312.

77. Ibid., p. 315.

of depression is relevant to alcoholism. In our review of field dependence theory it was found that pre-alcoholics and alcoholics are strongly dependent on the external field. Moreover, we indicated that the field dependent pre-alcoholics and alcoholics characteristically incorporate into their self-image, a masculine stereotype facade, while simultaneously suppressing dependence needs, leading to a prevailing dependent-independent conflict. We provided evidence that threats to the alcoholic's masculine facade results in a lowering of the self-concept. It seems probable that assaults to the masculine facade will also cause increased depression of a reactive type in the alcoholic. Several research studies are presented to reinforce these speculations.

A study by Berg,[78] for example, found that alcoholism is associated with neuroticism. Scott[79] also found that the typical alcoholic has some neurotic traits such as depressive tendencies, guilt proneness and symbolism.

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78. Berg, p. 442.

79. Edward M. Scott, Struggles In An Alcoholic Family (Springfield Ill.: Charles C. Thomas, 1970), p. 15.

Rushing's[80] findings support the appearance of this reactive type depression in alcoholics. He suggests from a review of the literature that predisposing social and personality factors were primarily responsible for a high alcoholic suicidal rate. This rate ranges from 8 percent to as high as 30 percent of all alcoholics. In particular, he[81] emphasized that there is a strong relationship between economic fortune and suicides, with a disproportionate number of victims either unemployed, working irregularly or working at part-time jobs.

The relationship between depression and alcoholism has been well documented both statistically and clinically. Reimer,[82] observing the records of 259

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80. William A. Rushing, Individual Behavior And Suicide (Chicago: Rand McNally, 1969), pp. 100-112. See also, William A. Rushing, "Alcoholism and Suicide Rates by Status Set and Occupation," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 29 (1968), pp. 399-411.

81. Rushing, Individual Behavior and Suicide, 19 p. 105.

82. John R. Reimer, "Alcoholism, Sex, Socioeconomic Status and Race in Two Hospitalized Samples," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 32 (1971), pp. 942-947.

hospitalized alcoholics, found that 33 percent had a history of suicidal attempts. Button[83] was primarily concerned with presenting and analysing data obtained on the Minnesota Multiphasic Inventory records of a group of hospitalized alcoholics. Results from his sample of 64 alcoholics show that their level of depression is somewhat elevated above the normal range on this standardized test.

Several other writers have emphasized this relationship. Blane,[84] for example, notes that chronic episodes of depression occur regularly in alcoholics. Chafetez et. al.[85] in turn state that "depression, ever-present and deeply penetrating pervades all the alcoholic's personality and all his reactions in the search

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83. Alan D. Button, "The Genesis and Development of Alcoholism: An Empirically Based Schema," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 17 (1956), pp. 671-675.

84. Blane and Chafetez, p. 15.

85. Morris E. Chafetez, and Harold W. Demore, Alcoholism and Society (New York: Oxford University Press, 1962), p. 24.

for oblivion." Weingold[86] also concludes that the majority of the alcoholic patients in his study were depressed, compared to the normal standardized group used in Zung's Depression Scale.

Thus, these studies portray a strong relationship between alcoholism and depression. This relationship should be expected, in that the depression is of a distinct reactive type, occuring as a result of severe attacks on the masculine facade.

Depression, performance and the self-concept: Loeb et. al.[87] measured the effects of failing a task on mood, motivation and performance. His sample was comprised of 20 depressed and 20 non-depressed male hospital patients, selected on the basis of Beck's Depression Inventory and psychiatric interviews. The researchers found that patients who had high depression scores were significantly more pessimistic about their

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86. H. P. Weingold et. al., "Depression as a Symptom of Alcoholics; Search For a Phenomenon," Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 73 (1968), pp. 195-197.

87. A. Loeb, et. al., "Some Effects of Reward Upon the Social Perception and Motivation of Psychiatric Patients Varying In Depression," Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 68 (1964), pp. 609-616.

likelihood of succeeding and tended to underestimate the quality of their performances, even though their actual output was the same as that of low depressed patients. Interestingly, the authors found that failure improved the performance of subjects who had low depression scores while it impaired the performance of those with high scores.

This finding is not entirely unexpected. We have seen that low self-esteem persons actively assimilate negative stimuli into their self-concepts, to provide justification for dependent behavior, or to lessen anxiety of anticipated failure. Alternatively, high self-esteem persons limit cognitive input of negative stimuli, and may in fact react by improving performance.

Beck[88] confirms these findings. He shows that the low self-appraisals were applied to personal attributes such as ability, attractiveness and health, or to past career performance. Depressives would often magnify failures or defects and minimize or ignore favorable characteristics. The precise relationship between low

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88. Aaron T. Beck, Depression: Clinical, Experimental and Theoretical Aspects (New York: Harper and Row, 1967), p. 231.

self-appraisal and depression (implied in the previous study) was analysed in another study by Beck.[89] He found a direct relationship (-.66) between self-concept and depression levels.

We were unable to find any empirical studies linking alcoholism and the relationship between self-concept and depression found by Beck. Related, however, is Rushing's[90] findings indicating a strong relationship between alcoholics' self-attitudes and suicide rates, which is considered to be an indication of depression.

In summary the studies presented in this section have indicated a close association between depression and alcoholism and depression and the self-concept. The findings suggest that a depressive reaction accompanies the demise of the masculine facade in the field dependent alcoholic; and that a high negative relationship prevails between the self-concept and depression in the alcoholic.

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89. Ibid., p. 164.

90. See above, p. 68.

Chapter Summary and Derivation of the Research Problem

We have proposed in this chapter that a particular combination of environmental circumstances and personality correlates may eventually lead to the adoption (in the self-image) of a culturally determined, masculine facade of independence. This facade is alien to the pre-alcoholic's naturally dependent personality profile, necessitating the repression of these dependence needs and resulting in the formation of a dependence-independence conflict. Under particular circumstances, this conflict leads to the use of alcohol as a coping mechanism. The components of the conflict were repeatedly examined in the chapter. However, a brief summary of the conflict follows.

To have conflict there must exist two antagonistic forces. In the dependence-independence conflict these forces are represented by a culturally based stereotyped masculine facade of independence on one end of the continuum, with strong innate dependence needs on the other. These aspects form the base of the conflict. In analysing this conflict we will begin with the dependence portion.

The pre-alcoholic child displays a general pattern of heightened dependence (measured cognitively by field dependence). This heightened dependence seemingly is a byproduct of an environment which continually frustrates the child's needs for love, support and guidance. Tiffin and McCormick[91] maintain that frustration can be met positively or negatively and that repression is one negative reaction that can be followed. These authors assert that repression "is characterized by blocking out from consciousness those cognitive associations that are disturbing." Furthermore, they emphasize that repression is a very unrealistic type of behavior since it implies that the problem will dissolve if it is ignored. We have shown that the pre-alcoholic, typically having a high self-concept, would react to conflict by selectively screening stimuli. But as Tiffin and McCormick[92] so aptly suggest, simply ignoring a problem will not eliminate it. Thus, repressed dependence needs form one aspect of the dependence-independence conflict.

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91. J. Tiffin and E. J. McCormick, Industrial Psychology 5th ed. (Englewood Cliffs, N. J.: Prentice-Hall, 1965), p. 343.

92. Ibid., p. 344.

The second condition required for the conflict is the adoption of an unrealistic view of the male role. The acceptance of this masculine facade into the self-image is seen as occuring simultaneously with repression of dependence needs.

Its adoption results from continual frustration of his dependence needs, a poor male image portrayed by the father and continual bombardment by a cultural prototype of the male role by both parents as well as a variety of communication devices. It is important to note, in terms of our theory, that the pre-alcoholic adopts an extreme stereotype of the masculine role into his self-image, and that this stereotype subsequently becomes the primary determinant in the maintenance of his self-concept.

Conflict is generated because the dependent personality style and facade of independence cannot coexist in the pre-alcoholic. He therefore attempts to repress his innate dependence needs to maintain a high self-image. However, the more this person fulfills the masculine facade, the less he is able to satisfy his innate dependence needs, and the more difficult is their repression. Conversely, when the repressed de-

pendence needs come to the conscious surface, they threaten the masculine facade and the self-image. Conflict is reflected behaviorally in heightened anxiety and tension, with alcohol used as a coping mechanism to minimize the conflict.

We perceive the alcoholic as exemplifying different stages of the dependence-independence conflict. Initially, he seems to be quite successful in coping with the conflict, by repression. Later it becomes necessary to supplement repression with the use of alcohol. Finally, the complete inability to cope with the conflict results in a collapse of the facade, of the self-concept and in heightened depression.

In the remaining (empirical) portion of this dissertation we are particularly concerned with identifying the correlates of various stages of the dependence-independence conflict. We have chosen employment status as the independent variable because of its social importance as a measure of the masculine attributes.

The research problem may be stated as follows: would alcoholics who are employed and therefore satisfying an important portion of the masculine image, differ from unemployed male alcoholics whose masculine fa-

cade has been seriously challenged, in their self-concepts, depressive tendencies and in their conscious expression of their needs, achievement, dominance and succorance? And furthermore, as the depression level increases, will the self-concept of subjects simultaneously decrease?

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The Research Problem

The research problem, which was derived in Chapter II, specified the basic relationships to be investigated in this study. The problem statement read as follows "would alcoholics who are employed (and therefore satisfying an important aspect of the masculine image) differ from unemployed male alcoholics (whose masculine facade has been seriously challenged) in their selfconcepts, depression levels and in their conscious expression of their psychological needs, as represented by such variables as achievement, dominance and succorance?" In addition, we querried about the relationship between depression and the self-concept, asking the question "as the depression level increases, will the self-concept simultaneously decrease?"

Research Method, Sample and Setting

A research study was designed to investigate the relationships stated in the research problem. A sam-

ple of 70 male alcoholics[1] (38 unemployed and 32 employed) were administered a short questionnaire, Gough's Adjective Check List and Beck's Depression Inventory, to obtain quantitative data on the variables stated in the research problem.[2] The alcoholics were volunteers (selected over a period of three months) taken from various (Edmonton) inpatient and outpatient facilities of the Alberta Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission. The test instruments were administered to the alcoholics, on an individual basis by the researcher. Complete co-operation was given to the researcher by counsellors and supervisory staff at the Commission.

Operational Definitions of the Variables

Employment status: Classification of subjects on this variable was based on responses to a question in

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1. A person is deemed to be an alcoholic for the purpose of this study, if he is being treated for alcoholism at the Alberta Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Commission. The Commission is a government agency with a professional staff trained in diagnosis and treatment of alcoholism.

2. Brief excerpts from these test instruments are presented in Appendix 1 and 2.

a short questionnaire developed by the author. The question read as follows:

Are you presently

a) self-employed
b) steadily employed on a full-time job
c) steadily employed on a part-time job
d) casually employed
e) unemployed but definitely sure of obtaining a steady full-time or part-time job
f) unemployed
g) student
h) retired

This rather elaborate categorization of employment status was deemed necessary to eliminate possible confusion, which would arise from using a simple employment-unemployment dichotomy. In addition this permitted subsequent collapsing of the categories. Items d, g, and h were treated as non-responses for purposes of classification. Subjects checking responses a, b or c were classified as employed. Those checking items e or f were classified as unemployed.

Self-Concept: Refers to the degree of self-acceptance consciously expressed by the subject. Self-acceptance is measured by an index extracted from Gough's Adjective Check List and used by Conners[3] in

3. R. G. Connor, "The Self-Concepts Of Alcoholics" (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, University of Washington, 1961) p. 35.

his study of the self-concept of alcoholics. Following Connors, self-acceptance is measured as follows:

$$\text{self-acceptance} = \frac{\text{\# of favorable adjectives checked}}{\text{total \# of adjectives checked}}.$$

The denominator consists of 300 adjectives, any number, which a subject may check. The numerator includes 75 favorable adjectives any number which (associated with the favorability scale developed by Gough)[4] the subject may or may not check off, as being representative of feelings about himself. The resulting index score always ranges between zero and one. As such, the lower the score, the lower the overall self-concept; the higher the index score the higher the subject's self-concept. The Adjective Check List was standarized by Gough and Heilbruin and has both established reliability and validity.[5]

Depression: Depression level is defined and measured with the aid of Beck's Depression Inventory. The appropriate procedure for using the inventory was re-

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4. Harrison G. Gough, and Alfred B. Heilbruin, The Adjective Check List Manual (Palo Alto, California: Consulting Psychologists Press, 1965), p. 2.

5. Ibid., p. 5.

ported by Beck who also reported on its reliability and validity.[6] The test is a quick and reliable measure of general depression. A total depression score is obtained from this test by adding together the 21 individual category scores. Each category score in turn is measured on a zero to three continuum (See Appendix 1). Thus, the possible total score range on the test is between zero and sixty-three. Beck uses a three-way classification of depression; whereby, persons with a total score less than 14 are not considered to be depressed; persons scoring between 14 and 25 are classified as moderately depressed, and those scoring above 25 are designated as being highly depressed. Using this procedure we placed subjects in one of these three ordinal levels of depression.

Psychological needs: Three psychological needs were used in this study, all of which were measured by

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6. Aaron T. Beck, Depression: Clinical, Experimental, and Theoretical Aspects (New York: Harper and Row, 1967), pp. 193-203., Maryse Metcliffe and Ellen Goodman, "Validation of an Inventory for Measuring Depression," British Journal of Psychiatry, 3 (1965), pp. 250-252.

the Adjective Check List mentioned previously. Raw scores for a given need were calculated by taking an algebretic sum of indicative and contraindicative adjectives that have been checked off (by an individual) for that scale.[7] Raw scores for these needs were subsequently converted into standardized percentile scores, based upon Heilbruin's normative group scores. Thus, a person scoring above the 50th percentile would exhibit a higher need score than the norm, on that particular need scale. The needs used in this study are defined in the Check List Manual as follows:

Need for achievement: Is the ability to strive to be outstanding in pursuits of socially recognized significance. Sample adjectives that are indicative of achievement would include aggressive, ambitions, determined, enterprising, independent and persistent. Contraindicative adjectives would contain apathetic, indifferent and quitting.

Need for dominance: Is defined as the ability to seek and sustain leadership roles in groups or to be influential and controlling in individual relationships.

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7. For a more detailed discussion of scoring procedures for this test, see Gough and Heilbruin, pp. 10-11.

Sample adjectives that are positively related to dominance include; aggressive, confident, demanding, dominant, opinionated, and outspoken. Several negatively related adjectives are easy going, dependent, spineless and submissive.

Need for succorance: Is defined as the soliciting of sympathy, affection, or emotional support from others. The high scorer is seen as a person who is dependent on others, and actively seeks support from them. Representative adjectives positively associated with succorance comprise of; demanding, dependent, meek and worrying. With negatively related adjectives including; confident, independent, self-confident and indifferent.

The Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses have been derived from the statement of the problem presented earlier in this chapter.

Hypothesis I: Unemployed male alcoholics would exhibit greater depression than employed male alcoholics.

This hypothesis is based upon; 1) a finding by Rushing[8] that unemployed alcoholics had a much higher

8. William A. Rushing, "Alcoholism and Suicide Rates by Status, Set and Occupation," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 29 (1968), p. 399.

proportion of suicides than the general population average, and 2) from our conceptual framework developed in the last chapter, where we argued that an alcoholic would exhibit a reactive type depression to a major threat to his masculine facade.

Hypothesis II: Unemployed male alcoholics will express lower self-concepts than employed male alcoholics.

Our conceptual framework strongly suggests this hypothesis, in that severe threats to the facade inevitably result in a self-image collapse. Our basic underlying assumption here, of course, is that unemployment would represent a key threat to the alcoholics self-concept.

Hypothesis III: The alcoholics level of depression varies inversely with their self-concept.

This relationship was explicitly found by Beck.[9] However, Beck's population was not composed of alcoholics. Therefore, it seems relevant to examine this relationship for the alcoholic case.

Hypothesis IV: Unemployed alcoholics have lower self-concepts and this relationship is independent of

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9. Aaron T. Beck, Depression: Clinical, Experimental and Theoretical Aspects (New York: Harper and Row, 1967), p. 164.

their level of depression.

This hypothesis is directly concerned with examining the combined effects of depression and employment status on the self-concept. In other words we are testing for the differential response on the self-concept caused by different levels of employment status and depression.

Hypothesis V: Unemployed male alcoholics have less need for dominance than employed male alcoholics.

A variety of studies concerning the personality traits of alcoholics, have found alcoholics to generally see themselves as inferior and inadequate when compared to non-alcoholics.[10] These findings would indicate a general lack of dominance on the part of alcoholics. Jones[11] however, saw the pre-alcoholic adol-

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10. See for example; W.F. Gross and Linda O. Alder, Aspects of Alcoholics Self-Concepts as Measured by the Tennessee Self-Concept Scale," Psychological Reports, 27 (1970), pp. 431-434., A.F. Williams, "Self-Concepts of College Problem Drinking—A Comparison With Alcoholics," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 26 (1965), pp. 586-594., Howard J. Clinebell, Understanding and Counselling the Alcoholic (New York: Abingdon Press, 1956), p. 43.

11. Mary Cover Jones, "Personality Correlates and Antecedents of Drinking Patterns in Adult Males," Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, p. 10.

escent as pushing the limits and exhibiting assertive behavior. Whereas Hurwitz[12] in turn, upon examining employed alcoholics concluded that four out of five of his employed sample displayed (at the conscious level) a public behavioral image of dominance and strength.

The discrepency of these findings may be explained by examining the stages of the dependence-independence conflict. The Hurwitz and Jones findings would seemingly represent alcoholics in an earlier stage of the conflict, where the masculine facade remains largely intact; whereas, the other studies examine alcoholic populations exemplifying persons who more overtly express their dependence needs, with their independent facade largely disintegrated.

Hypothesis VI: Unemployed alcoholics manifest a lower need for achievement than employed male alcoholics.

Several studies tend to support this hypothesis. We have previously mentioned a variety of studies that conclude that the alcoholic, in general is unable to obtain his aspired occupational goal. A study by

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12. Jacob I. Hurwitz and David Lelos, "A Multilevel Interpersonal Profile of Employed Alcoholics," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 27 (1968), p. 69.

Pollmer[13] distinctly portrays the vast majority of the alcoholics as trying to push themselves occupationally beyond their mental capacity. In addition, the general strong success orientation, emphasized by the pre-alcoholic parents and greater society would be expected (in view of the child's field dependence nature) to be incorporated into his self-concept. When these high success asperations are thwarted by unemployment, the achievement portion of the masculine facade would be lowered.

Hypothesis VII: Unemployed male alcoholics have a higher need for succorance than employed male alcoholics.

Succorance needs, as previously defined, pertain to the soliciting of emotional support from others. According to our theoretical framework, these dependence needs are repressed from the conscious self, in the early stages of the dependence-independence conflict, to becoming more openly manifested upon the collapse of the masculine facade. Since we have classified unemployment as the major independent variable associated with this collapse. We therefore expect that the un-

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13. Elizabeth Pollmer, Alcoholic Personalities (New York: Wiley and Sons, 1962), pp. 153-155.

employed alcoholic would express higher needs for succorance than the employed alcoholic.

Statistical Procedures

The first four hypotheses refer to the relationship between employment status, depression and the self-concept. The first hypothesis is tested by employing the student t test to identify significant differences in the mean depression levels for the employed and unemployed alcoholics.

The second, third and fourth hypothesis are concerned with the individual and combined effects of employment status and depression on self-concept. Analysis of variance procedures[14] and the establishment of 95% confidence intervals are used to test these hypotheses.

The remaining hypotheses, V, VI, and VII, are concerned with the difference between employed and unemployed alcoholics with respect to psychological needs of dominance, achievement and succorance. Student t tests were employed to test the significance of the difference between the means of the two groups for each of the three needs.

14. S.R. Searle, Linear Models (New York: Wiley and Sons, 1971), pp. 270-302.

CHAPTER IV

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSES OF FINDINGS

The previous two chapters have provided support for the existence and prevalence of a dependence-independence conflict in alcoholics. This chapter is concerned with the presentation of the data and ascertaining the extent to which our hypotheses pertaining to the employment status, depression level, self-concept and psychological needs of alcoholics, have been supported. Each hypothesis will be discussed separately in terms of the dependence-independence conflict we have postulated.

Hypotheses Pertaining to Employment Status, Depression and Self Concept

Hypothesis I: Unemployed male alcoholics would exhibit greater depression than employed male alcoholics.

Table IV-I presents the results of a Student t Test on the depression scores of employed and unemployed alcoholics. It is seen that the data supports the hypothesized relationship between employment sta-

Table IV-1.

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED MALE ALCOHOLICS ON DEPRESSION (Student t Test)

Variable	Unemployed		Employed		Degree of Freedom	t
	$\bar{X}$	S.D.	$\bar{X}$	S.D.		
Depression	17.55	5.62	7.47	5.62	68	4.752*

Source: DERS Statistical Computer Package - ANOVIO

*Significant beyond .005 level.

tus and depression ($p < .005$).

This finding suggests that unemployment presents a serious threat to the masculine stereotype facade adopted by alcoholics. The unemployed status is incongruent with the feigned independent posture of these persons who, as we have seen are basically field dependent personality types. This incongruity leads to increased depression. This finding also supports Rushing's[1] observation that unemployed alcoholics have high suicide rates. Depression would necessarily preceed the advent of suicide in alcoholics, as depression is a primary component of suicidal motives.

The increase in depression following the collapse of the masculine facade represents only one aspect of a complex psychological reaction to unemployment. Unemployment is also expected to adversely affect the general level of the self-concept. This, of course, would also be related to the increase in depression. These relationships are further discussed below.

Depression Levels, Unemployment, and Self-Concept

Analysis of variance techniques and the establish-

1. William A. Rushing, "Alcoholism and Suicide Rates by Status, Set and Occupation," Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 29 (1968), p. 399.

ment of confidence limits for differences between means are used in this study to test the hypothesized relationships between employment status, depression level and self-concept. The results are presented in Table IV-I. The first value of importance in interpretating the data in Table IV-2 is the F(Rm). This value indicates that the treatment (unemployment), block (depression) and interaction effects, contribute significantly to the explanation of the variation in the self-concept. Thus, at least one of the main effects, or the interaction effect is responsible for the source of variation over and above the variation accounted for by the mean. Each effect (α referring to the employment status effect and β referring to the depression effect, and γ referring to the interaction effect) is discussed separately, according to their respective hypotheses.

Hypothesis II: States that unemployed male alcoholics will express lower self-concepts than the employed male alcoholics. Table IV-2 presents two tests for significant employment status effects. The first one $F(\alpha/\mu)=14.683$ ($p < .005$) tests the effectiveness (in terms of explaining the variation in self-concept)

Table IV-2.

ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE FOR TWO-WAY CLASSIFICATION WITH INTERACTION

Source of Variation	Degree of Freedom	Sum of Squares	Mean Square	F Statistic		Significance Level
a - For fitting μ, and $\alpha, \beta, \gamma/\mu$:						
Mean	1	10.27125	10.27125	F(M)	=615.035	
$\alpha, \beta, \gamma/\mu$	4	.40721	.10180	F(Rm)	= 6.096	.005
Residual Error	65	1.0855	.01670			
Total	70	11.764				
b - For fitting μ, then α, then β and then γ:						
Mean	1	10.27125	10.27125	F(M)	=615.035	
α/μ	1	.24521	.24521	$F(\alpha,\mu)$	= 14.683	.005
$\beta/\mu, \alpha$	2	.16167	.08083	$F(\beta/\mu,\alpha)$	= 4.840	.05
$\gamma/\mu, \alpha, \beta$	1	.00024	.00024	$F(\gamma/\mu,\alpha,\beta)$	= .014	
Residual Error	65	1.0855	.01670			
Total	70	11.764				
c - For fitting μ, then β, then α and then γ:						
Mean	1	10.27125	10.27125	F(M)	=615.035	
β/μ	2	.33329	.16665	$F(\beta/\mu)$	= 9.9787	.005
$\alpha/\mu, \beta$	1	.07366	.07366	$F(\alpha/\mu,\beta)$	= 4.4108	.05
$\gamma/\mu, \beta, \alpha$	1	.07366	.07366	$F(\gamma/\mu,\beta,\alpha)$	= .0141	
Residual Error	65	1.0855	.01670			
Total	70	11.764				

of adding employment status effects over and above the mean μ. The latter or $F(\alpha/\mu,\beta)=4.411$ ($p< .05$) tests the effectiveness of adding employment status effects after accounting for the effects of self-concept and depression.

These findings indicate that there is a difference in self-concept due to employment status and that this relationship holds even after the effects of depression as a source of variation (on self-concept) are accounted for.

Table IV-3 presents the means of the employment status categories and depression levels. Since the employment status effect was significant (Table IV-2), and since there are only two categories, the difference between the self-concept means (Table IV-3) for the two categories is significant.

This finding is suggestive that the unemployed alcoholics represent a late stage in the dependence-independence conflict. At this stage, the masculine facade of independence is crushed, resulting in a simultaneous decrease in the general self-concept. Hypotheses I and II therefore substantially confirm that unemployment represents a severe threat, as expected, to the masculine facade, resulting in adverse effects

Table IV-3.

SELF-CONCEPT AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND DEPRESSION

	Low Depression	Moderate Depression	High Depression	Total
Unemployed	y_{11}=6.141	y_{12}=4.222	y_{13}=2.029	$\bar{X}_{1j}$=.329*
	n_{11}=16	n_{12}=13	n_{13}= 9	
Employed	y_{21}=11.926	y_{22}=2.396	y_{23}= 0	$\bar{X}_{2j}$=.448*
	n_{21}=26	n_{22}= 6	n_{23}= 0	
	$\bar{X}_{i1}$=.430*	$\bar{X}_{i2}$=.354*	$\bar{X}_{i3}$=.226*	

*Where $\bar{X}_{ij} = \sum_{i=1}^{2} \sum_{j=1}^{3} y_{ij}/n_{ij}$

and y_{ij}= Sum of the self-concept scores in cell ij.

and n_{ij}= Self-concept frequency in cell ij.

on the self-concept, and depressive level.

The third Hypothesis deals with the relationship between depression and the self-concept. It states that the alcoholics level of depression varies inversely with their self-concept.

Table IV-2 presents the results of the analysis of variance. The β effects or depression effects are represented by $F(\beta/\mu)=9.979$ ($p < .005$) and $F(\beta/\mu,\alpha)=4.840$ ($p < .05$).

These significant Fs indicate that there is a difference in self-concept between depression categories and that this relationship holds even after the effects of employment status on self-concept have been accounted for.

But again we are concerned with the directionality of individual mean differences. It is expected that as the depression level increases there is a concomitant decrease in the self-concept level. The mean depression level scores are shown in Table IV-3. The mean values $D_1=.430$, $D_2=.354$ and $D_3=.226$ suggest that our hypothesis may be correct. The significance of the differences in these means is tested by establishing 95 percent confidence intervals.

Table IV-4 presents the mean differences between depression levels with the associated 95 percent confidence interval. In all cases, we note that the confidence interval does not include zero and hence, we may conclude that the differences among the mean self-concept levels is significant at the 105 level. Thus Hypothesis III is supported by the data.

Hypothesis IV: Unemployed alcoholics have lower self-concepts and this relationship is independent of their level of depression.

Interaction is defined by Holscher[2] as "a measure of the differential response caused by different levels of one factor at various levels of other factors." For example, it might be argued that the unemployed sample will exhibit lower self-concepts at each level of depression under consideration. The presence of interaction would suggest that the unemployed alcoholics may express higher self-concepts than the employed alcoholics in some instances, lower in others depending on his level of depression. Table IV-2 presents the results of a test for interaction between the employment status effects and the depression level effects

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2. Harry H. Holscher, Simplified Statistical Analysis (Boston: Cahmers Books, 1971), p. 36.

Table IV-4.

CONFIDENCE INTERVALS FOR MEAN DEPRESSION DIFFERENCES

Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval
$(\overline{X}_{D_1}^{*} - \overline{X}_{D_2}) = .076 \pm$	.022
$(\overline{X}_{D_2} - \overline{X}_{D_3}) = .128 \pm$	.088
$(\overline{X}_{D_1} - \overline{X}_{D_3}) = .204 \pm$	.084

*Where D_1 = low depression

D_2 = moderate depression

D_3 = high depression

with respect to self-concept. It is seen that the F statistic ($F(\gamma/\mu,\alpha,\beta)=.01413$) is not significant at the .05 level. These findings support Hypothesis IV. Figure IV-1 also presents graphical support for the Hypothesis. As Holscher[3] suggests, parallelism would also indicate a lack of interaction. Figure IV-1 presents the mean self-concept scores for each depression level with respect to employment status. As would be expected, the unemployed group exhibit a lower self-concept at all depression levels.

Summary

The effect of employment status on the self-concept and depression level are two basic predictions of our theoretical framework. We argued that it was the masculine facade that supported the high self-concept of the alcoholic. Our conceptual framework suggests that repression of the innate dependence needs in conjunction with the use of alcohol, help to contain the dependence needs and uphold the alcoholic's masculine facade and self-image. This contains the dependence-independence conflict in the face of minor and moderate threats to the masculine facade. A severe threat to the masculine facade, however, would decimate it,

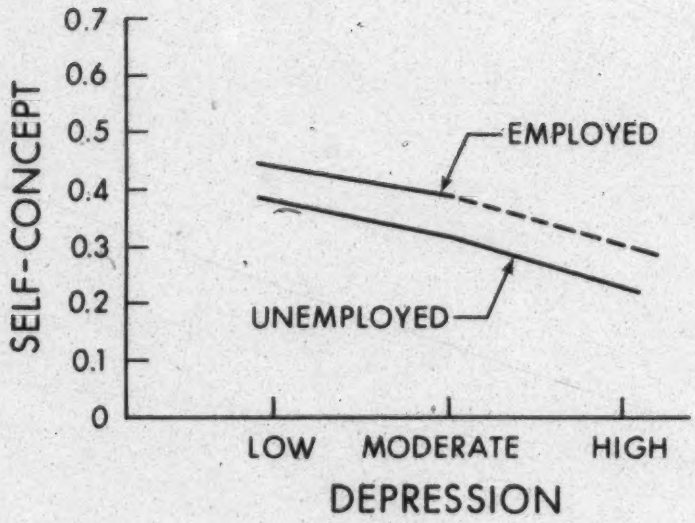

Figure IV-1 Interaction of Employment Status and Depression on Self-Concept

destroying the alcoholic's self-concept and heightening his depression. These expectations are confirmed by the data.

Furthermore, the expected relationship between depression and self-concept was also verified by the results. We posited that if a severe threat to the facade changes depression and the self-concept in the expected directions, then it must follow that self-concept and depression would be inversely related. This hypothesis was also based upon Beck's[4] finding of a high correlation between depression and self-concept. Here again our results supported our hypothesis.

Our finding with respect to interaction of these variables provide a better understanding of the interrelationship among depression, employment status and self-concept. Figure IV-1, is particularly helpful in clarifying these relationships. As previously stated, it shows that unemployed male alcoholics express lower self-concepts at all depression levels. This essentially isolates the effect of unemployment on the facade. That is, the observation that the self-concepts of the employed group are higher at every level of de-

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4. Aaron T. Beck, Depression: Clinical, Experimental and Theoretical Aspects (New York: Harper and Row, 1967), p. 164.

pression indicates that their facade largely remains intact, even in the face of high levels of depression. It appears, however, that unemployment at least partially demolishes the facade resulting in a lower self-concept irrespective of the depression level of the alcoholic.

Hypotheses Pertaining to Psychological Needs

In addition to the foregoing hypotheses, it was posited that alcoholics experiencing different stages of the dependence-independence conflict would express different psychological needs. It is important to observe that the psychological needs essentially reflect different aspects of the self-concept. Since the alcoholics self-concept is largely based upon the assumption of a masculine facade manifesting particularly a need for independence, we suggest that other aspects of this facade such as a need for achievement and dominance would also be more overtly expressed by employed than by unemployed male alcoholics. It also follows that needs associated with dependence such as the need for succorance, would be less pronounced in employed alcoholics. They represent needs that have been repressed, i.e. they are present but not consciously ex-

pressed.

The hypotheses pertaining to psychological needs were stated previously as follows:

Hypothesis V: Unemployed male alcoholics have less need for dominance than employed male alcoholics.

Hypotheses VI: Unemployed alcoholics manifest a lower need for achievement than employed alcoholics.

Hypothesis VII: Unemployed alcoholics have a higher need for succorance than employed alcoholics.

Table IV-5 presents the data with respect to these hypotheses. The results indicate that each hypothesis is supported.

These results verify that aspects of the self-concept such as achievement and dominance which reflect the masculine facade, are de-emphasized when this facade and self-concept are destroyed. The results also indicate that when this occurs, succorance, which was seen to be repressed when the masculine facade was intact, becomes more overtly expressed in the self-concept.

Summary of Chapter

This chapter has been concerned with examining the effect unemployment has on the alcoholics self-concept,

Table IV-5.

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED MALE ALCOHOLICS ON ACHIEVEMENT, DOMINANCE AND SUCCORANCE

Variable	Unemployed Mean	Employed Mean	Unemployed S.D.	Employed S.D.	t Value
Achievement	43.03	54.00	11.21	7.62	-4.695*
Dominance	39.11	50.38	12.19	7.93	-4.448*
Succorance	57.84	49.28	10.73	8.95	3.582*

Source: DERS Statistical Computer Package - ANOV10

* Significant beyond .005 level.

depression level and a variety of psychological needs. The theoretical construct developed in Chapter II predicted that the masculine facade, existant in the alcoholic, would be decimated if threatened severly. It was predicted that employment status, because of its general or all encompassing importance to the masculine facade held by the alcoholic would represent a logical measure of the stage of the dependent-independent conflict. It was theorized that alcoholics who were employed would exemplify an earlier stage of the dependence-independence conflict, one in which the facade of masculine independence would be more successfully repressed. At this stage the self-concept should be quite high, with depression relatively low. The alcoholic at this point, is in the initial portion of the dependence-independence conflict; and therefore, should be actively striving for achievement and dominance, or factors which compliment his stereotyped masculine image, while actively repressing his dependence needs, represented by succorance. Unemployment was posited to represent a very severe threat to the masculine facade, with the resulting collapse of the masculine facade and the accompanying adverse effects on the self-

concept and increased depression; the more overt expression of dependence needs (succorance) and less emphasis upon the masculine attributes of achievement and dominance.

The results of this chapter indicate that unemployment represents a severe threat to the stereotyped masculine facade of independence exhibited by alcoholics. This deduction is represented by the affirmative findings regarding our hypotheses, as the unemployed group express much lower self-concepts, higher depression levels and lower achievement and dominance, when compared to the employed group.

Furthermore, the significant finding regarding succorance reinforces the theoretical supposition that the employed group are repressing their dependence needs; whereas, the unemployed alcoholics, as projected, more overtly express these needs upon the collapse of the facade.

Several other hypotheses were tested in this chapter. They were not as intricately related to the theory developed in the preceeding chapters. For example, it was found that as the depression level increases, the self-concept decreases in both the employed and unem-

ployed alcoholic cases studied. Furthermore, it was found that the unemployed group of alcoholics expressed lower self-concepts at each depression level; thereby, strengthening the importance unemployment has on the self-concept and the facade.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS AND RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS

Summary

This thesis has been concerned with providing a better understanding of the psychological conditions that are preconditions or correlates of alcoholism. A comprehensive review of the literature on alcoholism has suggested that alcoholics demonstrate a psychological profile indicative of the existence of dependence-independence conflict. This conflict is a result of the interaction of environmental factors in the home of alcoholics during their childhood, particular cultural expectations regarding the male role in our society and the specific cognitive or perceptual style (field dependence) that the pre-alcoholic exhibits. In analysing the emergence of alcoholism this study placed special emphasis on the phases of development of the dependence-independence conflict in the alcoholic.

The alcoholic is viewed in our theory as a field dependent person who has actively internalised a highly stereotyped version of the male role. The mainte-

nance of this role facade is necessary to retain the high self-concept that generally exists in the pre-alcoholic. It is not difficult to visualize, however the psychological conflict that will prevail in a field dependent person who assumes this stereotyped masculine image. The very rigid internalization of this image is contrary to the individual's innate nature. He is naturally dependent not independent, submissive not dominant; yet to retain a high self-image he must keep the facade intact. This necessitates the repression of the innate needs for dependence, resulting in the dependence-independence conflict we have already mentioned. The pre-alcoholic eventually turns to the use of alcohol as an additional coping device. The alcoholic is thus seen as being in a continual state of anxiety and tension. His rigid adherence to the masculine facade does not allow for the satisfaction of his dependence needs making them increasingly difficult to repress. Furthermore, inevitable threats to the masculine facade create further pressure by lowering the self-concept, and permitting the resurfacing of repressed dependence needs.

The present study assumes that most alcoholics are doomed to an eventual collapse of the masculine facade

and a reorientation of the self-concept, with the repressed dependence needs becoming more overt in the alcoholics self-concept and behavior. The collapse of the masculine facade occurs when threats to this image exceed the alcoholic's capacity to cope with the dependence-independence conflict. The unemployed status was assumed in this study to constitute such a threat. It was posited that in this culture being employed would be such a key factor in the maintenance of the masculine facade, and that unemployment would destroy the masculine image resulting in increased depression, a drastic lowering of the self-concept and the expression of different psychological needs.

Thus, the psychological profiles of employed and unemployed male alcoholics were expected to represent distinct stages of the dependence-independence conflict. The characteristics of the employed group exemplify a relatively early stage of the conflict where the facade remains intact. Those of the unemployed would reflect the correlates of a later stage in which the conflict can no longer be coped with; the masculine image collapses, the level of depression increases and a change in the self-concept occurs. This study was designed to

test these theoretical assumptions.

Subjects comprised a random sample of 70 male alcoholic volunteers. Thirty-eight of the volunteers were unemployed while the remaining 32 were employed. The sample were administered a short questionnaire, and various psychological tests to measure level of depression, degree of the favorability of self-concept, the presence and level of various psychological needs. Seven specific hypotheses were derived from the conceptual framework and statistically tested. In all instances, the hypotheses were supported providing strong evidence of the validity of our theoretical assumptions.

Conclusion

In our presentation of the problem in Chapter I, we cited the need to develop and test a comprehensive theory concerning the relationship of self-concept, depression and various psychological needs to alcoholism. Our study has been reasonably successful in meeting these objectives.

The alcoholic portrays distinct patterns regarding his self-concept, his psychological needs and his expression of depression. An alcoholic who is employed and financially secure, projects a high self-concept; generally low depression, strong achievement and domi-

nance, needs, while repressing his dependence needs (need for succorance), because his masculine facade is largely intact. Such an alcoholic is in an early portion of the dependence-independence conflict. A completely psychological profile emerges when the facade of independence collapses, due to unemployment. The unemployed alcoholic exhibits a very low self-concept, high levels of depression, low achievement and dominance needs, and overtly expresses his formerly repressed dependence needs. Unemployed alcoholics constitute the type of alcoholics normally sampled in most alcoholic studies; and hence, this would account for their findings regarding the low self-concept in alcoholics. These studies are essentially obtaining a biased sample of alcoholics, that is not representative of the overall alcoholic population.

Implications for Further Research

The empirical study reported in this thesis has tested only a small portion of a rather comprehensive theory pertaining to the alcoholic syndrome. Many questions which are implied in our theoretical framework have been left unanswered. For example; in Chapter II, we provided strong theoretical support that

field dependence pre-dates the advent of alcoholism. To verify this assumption a longitudinal study would have to be conducted. More research is also required to clarify the value of the self-concept in the pre-alcoholic, especially in the early teens and late childhood. Only the McCord study has provided evidence to support the premise that pre-alcoholic children have high self-concepts. This is an important finding which contributes an integral part of our explanation of the persistence of the dependence-independence conflict for long periods in the alcoholic and why he adopts the masculine facade in the first place. Furthermore, although we have explained (on a theoretical level) why the pre-alcoholic adopts this facade, empirical evidence is needed to either prove or disprove these assumptions.

Finally, more research is required regarding the dependence-independence conflict itself. For example, Witkin noted that dependence needs were repressed not only by alcoholics but also by persons who developed ulcers, and by obese persons. Do other field dependent persons also strongly adopt an extreme stereotype masculine facade? In addition, it seems desirable to

enquire whether, once the masculine facade is decimated, it would be possible to reconstruct it and the associated self-concept to former levels.

The findings presented in this thesis have several implications for the therapeutic and educational programs of alcoholic agencies as well. If, as we have theorized, pre-alcoholic children are field dependent, and if they exhibit a certain psychological profile with associated needs, then perhaps special counselling programs imparting new degrees of self-awareness, could be initiated to curtail much of the future agony which these persons may be subjected to. Effective treatment of alcoholism may require group therapy of a more realistic view of the masculine role, i.e. one which is less stereotyped and more in line with his innate personality structure.

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APPENDIX I

INSTRUCTIONS AND SAMPLE QUESTIONS FROM BECKS DEPRESSION INVENTORY

The following instructions were given before administering the Becks Depression Inventory; in accordance with Becks* specifications.

"This is a questionnaire. On the questionnaire are groups of statements. I will read a group of statements. Then I want you to pick out the one statement in that group which best describes the way you feel today, that is, right now!"

*Beck, "Depression Clinical, Experimental, and Theoretical Aspects," p. 336.

A (Mood)

0 I do not feel sad
1 I feel blue or sad
2a I am blue or sad all the time and I can't snap out of it
2b I am so sad or unhappy that it is very painful
3 I am so sad or unhappy that I can't stand it

C (Sense of Failure)

0 I do not feel like a failure
1 I feel I have failed more than the average person
2a I feel I have accomplished very little that is worthwhile or that means anything
2b As I look back on my life all I can see is a lot of failures
3 I feel I am a complete failure as a person (Parent, husband, wife)

APPENDIX II

DIRECTIONS AND
SAMPLE OF ADJECTIVES TAKEN
FROM GOUGHS ADJECTIVE CHECK LIST

DIRECTIONS: This booklet contains a list of adjectives. Please read them quickly and put a ✓ beside each one you would consider to be self-descriptive. Do not worry about duplications, contradictions, and so forth. Work quickly and do not spend too much time on any one adjective. Try to be frank, and check those adjectives which describe you as you really are, not as you would like to be.

___ absent-minded 1	___ warm 291
___ active 2	___ wary 292
___ adaptable 3	___ weak 293
___ adventurous 4	___ whiny 294
___ affected 5	___ wholesome 295
___ affectionate 6	___ wise 296
___ aggressive 7	___ withdrawn 297
___ alert 8	___ witty 298
___ aloof 9	___ worrying 299
___ ambitious 10	___ zany 300

APPENDIX III

CALCULATIONS FOR ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE AND CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE CALCULATIONS

1) $R(\mu) = y^2_{...}/n_{...}$

$= (26.814)^2/70$

$= 10.27129$

2) $R(\mu,\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{2} y_i^2/n_i$

$= (12.492)^2/38 + (14.322)^2/32$

$= 10.51657$

3) $R(\mu,\beta) = \sum_{j=1}^{3} y^2_{.j.}/n_{.j.}$

$= y_1^2/n_1 + y_2^2/n_2 + y_3^2/n_3$

$= (18.07)^2/42 + (6.718)^2/19 + (2.029)^2/9$

$= 10.60458$

4) Total sum of squares

$= \sum y^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{2}\sum_{j=1}^{3}\sum_{k=1}^{70} y^2_{ijk}$

$= (.488)^2 + (.348)^2 + \ldots + (.233)^2 + (.164)^2$

$= 11.764$

5) $R(\mu,\alpha,\beta,\gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^{2}\sum_{j=1}^{3} y_{ij}/n_{ij}$

$= (6.141)^2/16 + (4.322)^2/13 + (2.029)^2/9 + (11.926)^2/26 + (2.396)^2/6$

6) $R(\mu,\alpha,\beta) = \sum_{j=1}^{3} n_{.j} \bar{y}_{.j}^{2} + r' C^{-1} r$

where in this case

$$C = C_{11} \qquad r = r_1$$

$$C_{11} = n_1 . - n_{ij}^2 / n_{.j}$$

$$r_1 = y_1 .. - n_{ij} \bar{y}_{.j}$$

$$C_{11} = 38 - (16)^2/42 - (13)^2/19 - (9)^2/9$$

$$= 38 - 256/42 - 169/19 - 81/9$$

$$= 14.01$$

$$r_1 = 12.492 - 16\ (.43016) - 13\ (.35357) - 9\ (.22544)$$

$$= 12.492 - 13.30558$$

$$= -1.01593$$

therefore

$$R(\mu,\alpha,\beta) = 10.60458 + (-1.01593)^2/(14.01)$$

$$= 10.60458 + .07366$$

$$= 10.67824$$

Calculations For 95% Confidence Limits (Depression Case)

$(\bar{X}_i - \bar{X}_j) \quad \pm t/2;\ 65. \quad \sqrt{MSE/n_i + MSE/n_2}$ *

$(\bar{X}^*_{D_1} - \bar{X}_{D_2}) = (.430 - .354) \pm 2.0003 \sqrt{.0165/42 + .0165/19}$

$= .076 \pm .0224$

$(\bar{X}_{D_2} - \bar{X}_{D_3}) = (.354 - .266) \pm 2.0003 \sqrt{.0165/19 + .0165/9}$

$= .128 \pm .088$

$(\bar{X}_{D_1} - \bar{X}_{D_3}) = (.430 - .226) \pm 2.0003 \sqrt{.0165/42 + .0165/9}$

$= .204 \pm .084$

*Where MSE = residual error

*Where D_1 = low depression

D_2 = moderate depression

D_3 = high depression